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Survey of Deuteronomy

by
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Survey of Deuteronomy

**A study of the book of Deuteronomy for
Small Group or Personal Bible Study**

Survey of Deuteronomy

Small Group or Personal Study Course

Introduction

This is a small group Bible study course to help you grow in your understanding of the book of Deuteronomy. This study will be most effective as you get together with a small group to share the answers that each of you have written in your personal study. This can also be used as a personal study course to help you grow in your understanding of the book of Deuteronomy. This course is designed to help you grow in three ways. Throughout the course, you will read a paragraph to help you grow in your knowledge of the verses you will be reading. After each paragraph, you will usually have three questions. The questions will focus on three things: Knowledge, Understanding and Application.

The first question will ask you to find the answer in the verses that you are reading. This question is to help you pick out a key fact in those verses to help you grow in your knowledge of those verses. The answer to this question will usually be found in the verses as you read them.

The second question will ask you a question that will help you to think through the verses to understand the meaning of the group of verses being discussed. As you read this question, pray that the Lord will give you understanding of the passage as well as knowledge of the facts.

The third question will help you to apply what you have learned from those verses both to your own life and to your service for Christ. It is as we understand and apply the Scripture to our lives that the Lord really begins to change and transform our lives.

At the end of each lesson, there will be an opportunity to write down something you have learned for your own life through the study of those verses. Our prayer is that as you work through these lessons, three things will happen in your life:

First, you will grow in your knowledge of the Bible.

Second, you will grow in your understanding of the verses you have studied.

Third, you will learn how to apply the Word of God to your life.

The basic material in each of these lessons was originally communicated in one of six Bible Survey texts written between 1969 and 1974 that cover the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation. We are making this material available in this new form to help you grow in your knowledge, understanding and application of the Bible to your life. The Lord willing, we will continue to make other books available as we have time to prepare them in this new form.

May the Lord bless you as you learn His Word.

Survey of Deuteronomy

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Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 1
Deuteronomy 1:1-2:37

The people of Israel had wandered in the wilderness for forty years since the Lord had given the law to Moses at Mount Sinai. During that time all of those over twenty years of age that had heard the law had died except for Joshua and Caleb. The new generation that had become adults since the people had left Mount Sinai was now ready to enter into the land that God had promised to Israel. Before the people went into this land of promise, God told Moses to give the people a review of their history. Then, Moses was to give the people a review of the law because God knew that many of the parents had failed to teach their children the commandments of the Lord.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what God said about the training of the people.
- Explain the failure of the people at Kadesh Barnea.
- Explain what you learn about the wanderings in the wilderness.
- Explain why Sihon chose to fight against Israel instead of letting Israel pass through his land.

As we begin our study of Deuteronomy, we get a real picture of the terrible results of sin. From Mount Sinai it was only an eleven day journey to the land that God had promised to Israel. However, because of the sin and rebellion of the people of Israel, it took the people forty years from the time they left Mount Sinai until they entered into the land that God had promised to them. When the people had been at Mount Sinai, God had told them that they had stayed there long enough. It was time for them to go to the land that God had promised to Israel.

1. Read Deuteronomy 1:1-21 and write what God told the people to do with the land that God had promised to their fathers.
2. Explain what the choice of Israel to rebel against the Lord shows about the terrible consequences of rebellion.
3. Explain why you think that people need to understand that there are consequences when they choose to rebel against the Lord.

The Lord had promised the land to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. As a result, all the people had to do was go into the land and possess the land, because God would drive out their enemies. The Lord also promised to make the people such a great nation that their numbers could not even be counted. Moses had realized that the people were already such a large nation that he could not rule them by himself. Then, the people had agreed with Moses that it was a good idea to have men selected from each tribe to lead the people of that tribe. These men were given the responsibility of judging the cases of the people from their tribe.

4. Read Deuteronomy 1:1-21 and write who the people were not to respect as they judged the people.
5. Explain why it was important for Moses to select leaders from each tribe that could take the responsibility to judge the cases where a decision needed to be made.
6. Explain why you think the people did not trust the Lord and believe that He would drive out their enemies.

When judges were judging a case, it was common in the surrounding countries for the judge to give the advantage to those who were rich. God said that the people of Israel were not to judge in that way. The rich and the poor were to be treated as equals. Today, many people still favor the rich and forget the poor. However, all people are created equal in the sight of God. Then,

Moses told the judges that the hard cases should be brought to him so that he could let God show how that particular case should be judged so the people would know the will of God.

7. Read Deuteronomy 1:1-21 and write to what place the people had come as they had traveled through the wilderness.

8. Explain what these verses teach about the desire of God for the way that all judgment should be handled.

9. Explain why you think that it is important to treat the rich and the poor equally in cases where there is a judgment to be made.

When the people reached Kadesh Barnea, they had come to the edge of the land that God had promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God had promised that He would give them that land. As a result, the Lord told the people not to be afraid or discouraged. However, the people had been afraid. The people had come to Moses and suggested that they should send spies ahead to search out the land before the entire nation entered the land. Then, the twelve spies had been sent to go and search out the land. These spies had returned to say that the fruit of the land was very good. In fact, the land was a wonderful land.

10. Read Deuteronomy 1:22-46 and write why the people of Israel did not enter the land even though it was a good land.

11. Explain why the people had suggested to Moses that they should send spies to check out the land before going into it.

12. Explain why you think that many people are controlled by fear instead of trusting the Lord for strength.

At Kadesh Barnea, the people chose to rebel against the Lord instead of obeying him. They complained in their tents that God had brought them out of Egypt to be destroyed by the Amorites. They complained because the people of the land were tall. The people of the land also had high walls around their cities. The people of Israel were especially afraid of the sons of Anakim because they were giants. Moses had tried to encourage the people. The people had seen the great things that the Lord had done for them in Egypt. They had seen the great things that the Lord had done in the desert. That was the reason Moses knew that the Lord would continue to do great things as the people entered into the land.

13. Read Deuteronomy 1:22-46 and write who the people did not believe.

14. Explain why the people were afraid of the sons of Anakim even though they had seen what God had done for them in Egypt.

15. Explain why you think that people begin to complain when they are controlled by fear.

The Lord had been leading the people of Israel with a cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night as they had traveled from Egypt to Mount Sinai. In spite of that fact, the people still refused to believe that the Lord would give them victory. When the Lord saw that the people refused to put their trust in Him, God said that the older generation would not be allowed to enter into the land. The only ones over twenty years of age that God said would enter the land were Caleb and Joshua. They were allowed to enter the land because they had trusted the Lord when the rest of the people had rebelled. God said that the children of those who had rebelled would be the ones that would enter the land.

16. Read Deuteronomy 1:22-46 and write where God then told the people to go.

17. Explain why the people refused to believe that the Lord would give them victory even though He had led them through the wilderness.

18. Explain why you think that many people are afraid to trust the Lord and choose to depend on their own strength instead.

When the people heard that God was going to send them out into the desert to die, the people rebelled again. They decided that they would go and fight against the people of the land. However, God had already spoken because of the rebellion of the people. The Lord did not go

with the people when they went to fight against the Amorites. The Amorites won a great victory over the people of Israel. The people missed the opportunity to enjoy great blessings from the Lord because of their rebellion against Him at Kadesh Barnea.

19. Read Deuteronomy 1:22-46 and write how long the people stayed at Kadesh Barnea after they rebelled against God.

20. Explain what these verses teach about the consequences of rebellion against the Lord.

21. Explain why you think that it is important for people to realize that they need to pray for wisdom before they make choices instead of acting on their own plans.

The people went out into the desert when they realized that they could not fight against the Amorites. There the people remained for a long time. In fact, they were in the desert near the Red Sea for most of the forty years that they wandered in the wilderness. Finally, the word of the Lord came to Moses saying it was time for the people of Israel to go in and possess the land that God had promised to them. God told the people to start north toward the land of promise. They were not to fight the people of Edom as they went north.

22. Read Deuteronomy 2:1-15 and write what the people were to buy from the family of Esau in Seir.

23. Explain why the people of Israel were told not to fight with the people of Edom as they traveled through their land.

24. Explain what you think the people thought when they realized that their choice meant that they would wander for forty years in the wilderness.

The people of Israel paid the family of Esau (Edom) for everything that they used as they went through the land of Seir. God also told the people to pay for everything that they used as they went through the land of Moab. We also see how the Lord had taken care of His people for the entire forty years that they were in the desert. Even though they had rebelled against the Lord and refused to enter the land at Kadesh Barnea, God had not forgotten His people. God had supplied all of the needs of the people for the entire forty years that they had wandered through the desert. We also read what some of the people that Israel met, as they traveled, were like.

25. Read Deuteronomy 2:1-15 and write how tall the people of Emim were.

26. Explain why God chose to care for His people and provide for them for the forty years, even though they had rebelled against Him.

27. Explain what you learn about the love and compassion of the Lord from the fact that He provided for Israel the entire forty years in the wilderness.

The reason that the people of Israel had rebelled against God and had not entered the land when they first came to the edge of it, was due to the fact that the spies told the people about the sons of Anakim. The people of Israel had been afraid to fight the sons of Anakim because they were giants. However, the people of Israel had met other groups that were just as large as the Anakim, and God had given victory to Israel. We also read that it took thirty-eight years for all of the men of Israel to die. That was exactly as God had promised in order to make it a total of forty years from the time that the people had left Egypt until they entered into the land of promise.

28. Read Deuteronomy 2:1-15 and write what had happened to all of the men of Israel by the end of those years.

29. Explain what these verses teach about the way that the Lord had supplied the needs of the people throughout their time in the wilderness.

30. Explain why God allowed Israel to fight against people who were as large as the sons of Anakim while they were in the desert.

After the rebellious men of Israel had died, God told Moses to go through the lands of Moab and Ammon. However, they were not to fight those people because God had given that land to Lot. God said that the first nation that Israel was to fight was the Amorites who lived in the

land of Heshbon. Their land began at the Arnon River. God promised that He would put fear in the hearts of the people because of what He would do to the Amorites. All of the surrounding nations would hear what the Lord had done for Israel when they fought against the Amorites.

31. Read Deuteronomy 2:16-37 and write how God said the other nations would feel when they heard what the Lord was doing for Israel.

32. Explain why God told Israel not to fight Moab and Ammon but told them to fight against the Amorites.

33. Explain why you think that God said He would cause the people of the surrounding nations to hear how He helped Israel defeat the Amorites.

God caused the nations to become afraid of the people of Israel. These nations heard what the Lord was doing for Israel and became so afraid that the people hardly had enough courage to even try to fight against Israel. They could not fight very well because of their fear. When Israel reached the edge of the land of Heshbon, Moses sent a letter to the king asking for permission to go through that land. Moses promised that the people would stay on the highway.

34. Read Deuteronomy 2:16-37 and write where Moses said the people of Israel would not turn as they traveled along the highway.

35. Explain why Moses gave the people in the land of Heshbon the opportunity to let them pass through without fighting against them.

36. Explain why you think that God had placed fear in the hearts of the people that Israel would meet as they prepared to enter the land.

The people of Israel also promised to pay for any food or water that they used as they traveled through Heshbon. However, Sihon, the king of Heshbon, refused to let the people of Israel pass through his land. Instead, God hardened the heart of Sihon so that he chose to come against Israel with his army. Moses had given the king of Heshbon the opportunity to avoid destruction. However, Sihon chose to fight against Israel. God had said to Abraham 400 years earlier that the sins of the Amorites must be judged. As a result, God had hardened the heart of Sihon so that he chose to fight against Israel instead of just letting them pass through the land.

37. Read Deuteronomy 2:16-37 and write what the people of Israel did to the Amorites because they chose to fight against Israel.

38. Explain why God had hardened the heart of Sihon so that he chose to come and fight against the nation of Israel.

39. Explain why you think that the Lord had given the Amorites an additional four hundred years before bringing judgment on them for their sins.

The Lord gave Israel a great victory over Sihon and the Amorites. The army of Sihon was completely destroyed. In addition, the people of Israel also completely destroyed the cities and the people of Heshbon. This destruction was so complete that none of the people of Heshbon remained. The people of Israel took the cattle and the possessions of the people of Heshbon. We also see the reason why the people of Israel were able to defeat all of the cities of Heshbon. We read that the Lord was the One that gave them the victory. He was the One that had fought for Israel.

40. Read Deuteronomy 2:16-37 and write how many cities were too strong for the people of Israel.

41. Explain what it means when it says that the Lord was the One that fought for the nation of Israel.

42. Explain why this helps you understand the fact that no one can stand against you when the Lord is for you.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 1:1-2:37 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 2
Deuteronomy 3:1-4:49

In our last lesson, we learned that the book of Deuteronomy is a review of the history of Israel, from the time that they were at Mount Sinai until they were ready to enter the land that God had promised to them. We also saw that this book includes a review of the law that was given to the people at Mount Sinai. This lesson will complete the review of the travels of the people of Israel. As we study this lesson, we will learn about the privilege that was given to Moses even though he was not allowed to enter the land because of his sin. God also took this opportunity to tell this new generation about the importance of the law.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain about the defeat of Bashan by Israel
- Explain what Moses was allowed to do even though he could not enter the land.
- Explain what God said about the importance of the law.
- Explain where the people were when Moses reviewed the law.

As we finished our last lesson, we studied about the defeat of Sihon, the king of Heshbon. Today, we go on to learn about the defeat of Og, the king of Bashan. Just like Sihon, Og chose to fight against the people of Israel instead of letting the people pass through his land. God gave the people of Israel a wonderful promise. God promised Israel that He would give them a complete victory over the army of Og. Then, Israel fought against the army of Bashan. Israel killed all of the people and captured all of the cities of Bashan. There was not a single city that was able to stand against Israel. A total of sixty cities were destroyed.

1. Read Deuteronomy 3:1-20 and write what all of the cities had to protect them from the army of Israel.
2. Explain why there was not a single city in the entire land of Bashan that was able to stand against the army of Israel.
3. Explain why you think Og refused to let Israel pass through his land without fighting even though he had heard what the Lord had done to Heshbon.

These cities had been built to stand against any enemies. However, they could not stand against Israel because God fought for the people of Israel. No army can stand against the power of God. The people of Israel also captured the cattle and the possessions of the people of Bashan. We learn that Og was a very large man. He was so big that his bed was made of iron instead of wood. His bed was thirteen and a half feet long and six feet wide. This was part of the reason why he was considered such a powerful king. He was so large that no one could stand against him, until he met the army of Israel. The Lord gave Israel victory over Og.

4. Read Deuteronomy 3:1-20 and write the names of the tribes that had received the lands of Heshbon and Bashan.
5. Explain why it was important for the people of Israel to realize that the Lord would fight for them before they entered the land that God had promised to them.
6. Explain why you think that God chose to tell about the size of the bed of Og, the king of Bashan.

Moses gave this land to these tribes on the condition that they would go with the other tribes to conquer the land on the other side of the Jordan River. However, not all of the people actually crossed the river. The wives and the children of these tribes and also the cattle remained in the land that had been given to them. These families moved into the cities that they had conquered. The men promised to fight with the men of the other tribes until all of the tribes were at peace

and had gained their own possessions in the land that God had promised to them.

7. Read Deuteronomy 3:1-20 and write what the men of these tribes would be allowed to do once the other tribes had conquered the land across the river.

8. Explain what these verses teach you about the victory of Israel over Og, the king of Bashan.

9. Explain why you think that it was important for the men of the two and a half tribes to help the other tribes, even though they were given land that was already conquered.

Moses also told the people how he had explained to Joshua that the Lord gave victory to the people of Israel over the people of Bashan. Moses had told Joshua to look and see the power of God. God had given the people of Israel complete victory over the armies of Heshbon and Bashan. Then, the Lord promised that He would give the same kind of victory to the people of Israel against all of the nations that they would fight, if the people would depend on the Lord for strength instead of trusting their own strength. The people of Israel did not need to fear their enemies. Today, we do not need to fear those who might try to do evil to us.

10. Read Deuteronomy 3:21-29 and write who God said would fight for the people of the nation of Israel.

11. Explain why it was important for Moses to have Joshua observe and see the power of God as God gave Israel victory over the nations of Heshbon and Bashan.

12. Explain why you think that God wanted Israel to learn to depend on Him instead of depending on their own strength.

These verses also tell us why we do not need to be afraid today. When we have placed our trust in Christ, we know that we can depend on Him to give us His strength as we pray and yield the control of our lives to Him. We can depend on the Lord to fight for us. As a result, we can have peace in our hearts because we know that our dependence is on the Lord and not on our own strength. Then, Moses told of his own prayer to the Lord. Moses thanked the Lord for showing him the greatness and the power of the Lord. Moses had realized that there was no one that could compare with the Lord as he saw the power of God revealed time after time as the people of Israel had traveled through the desert.

13. Read Deuteronomy 3:1-20 and write what Moses asked the Lord to allow him to do.

14. Explain why it was important for Moses to tell the people of Israel how he had thanked the Lord for the greatness and power of the Lord.

15. Explain why you can have peace in your heart when you depend on the Lord instead of depending on your own strength.

One of the greatest desires that Moses had was to have the opportunity to see the land that God had promised to the nation of Israel. However, the Lord had told Moses that he would not be allowed to enter the land because of his sin. As you remember, Moses struck the rock twice when God had told Moses that He would provide water if Moses would speak to the rock. He and Aaron had also taken the credit for supplying the water from the rock instead of giving the credit and glory to the Lord. That was the reason why God had said that Moses would not be allowed to cross the Jordan River and enter the land of promise.

16. Read Deuteronomy 3:21-29 and write where the Lord told Moses to go so that he could see the land.

17. Explain why the fact that Moses and Aaron took credit for getting water from the rock instead of giving the glory to God resulted in Moses not being allowed to enter the land of promise.

18. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to make certain that the things that you do bring glory to God and not to yourself.

Mount Pisgah was fairly close to the Jordan River. As a result, it was possible for Moses to see quite a bit of the land on the other side of the river from the top of Mount Pisgah. Moses was told to look in all four directions from the top of the mountain. Because Moses could not enter

the land, he was told to encourage Joshua and strengthen him. The Lord had chosen Joshua to take the place of Moses and lead the people into the land. For this reason, the Lord told Moses that he had a responsibility to strengthen and encourage Joshua.

19. Read Deuteronomy 3:21-29 and write what God told Moses what Joshua would do after he became the leader.

20. Explain why Christians also have a responsibility to strengthen and encourage new leaders of the Lord.

21. Explain some of the ways that you have found that are helpful to strengthen and encourage other leaders.

After Moses had reminded the people of the way that the Lord had led the people of Israel, he began to talk about the importance of obeying the law. Obedience to the Word of the Lord was required by the Lord. The people were not to add to the commandments of the Lord or to take away from them. Otherwise it would be necessary for God to judge the people of Israel. The people were to know the commandments of the Lord and follow them. That was the way that Israel would continue to be a great nation. The people of Israel were not to forget the words that the Lord had spoken to them.

22. Read Deuteronomy 4:1-24 and write to whom the people were to teach the commandments of the Lord.

23. Explain why it was important for the people of Israel to obey the commandments of the Lord and not just to know them.

24. Explain why you know that it is important for you in your own life to know and obey the commandments that the Lord has given to you.

Adults have a responsibility to teach both their children and their grandchildren the commandments of the Lord. God reminded the people to remember particularly the commandments of the Lord that were given at Mount Horeb (Sinai). That was the place where the Lord had given Moses the Ten Commandments on the tablets of stone. Then, Moses reminded the people of the way that God had spoken to them at Sinai. God spoke directly to the people from the mountain. The people heard the voice of God but they could not see Him. At the same time, the Lord had spoken to Moses and instructed him to teach the statutes and ordinances of the Lord.

25. Read Deuteronomy 4:1-24 and write how God had given the people of Israel the ten commandments.

26. Explain why it is important for adults to teach their children and grandchildren the commandments of the Lord.

27. Explain why you think that God had chosen to speak directly to the people from the mountain when Israel was at Mount Horeb.

The Lord also warned the people not to make any image that they might begin to worship at a later date. This included the images of people, animals, birds, or creeping things. God also warned the people not to worship the sun, moon, or stars. God had brought the people of Israel out of Egypt because He had chosen the people of Israel. However, Moses was not allowed to enter the land of promise because of one sin. If one sin kept Moses out of the land of promise, worship of idols would certainly bring a much greater judgment on the people of Israel.

28. Read Deuteronomy 4:1-24 and write what Moses said about the nature of God.

29. Explain what these verses teach about the danger of making images of people, animals, birds, or creeping things.

30. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to make certain that you do not let any thing become so important that you begin to worship it.

God went on to tell the people of Israel what would happen to them if they did choose to make an image to worship at that time, or at any time in the future. God said that He would take the

people out of the land that He was giving them, if they began to make images and worship them. The people would be scattered among many nations for that sin. Many of the people would be killed. As a result, the people would become few in number if they made images and began to serve those images. We see that the gods of men cannot see, hear, eat, or smell. Since idols cannot do any of those things, those idols could never help a single person.

31. Read Deuteronomy 4:25-49 and write how the people were to seek God if they wanted to find Him.

32. Explain why God warned the people that the judgment would be very severe if they chose to make and serve idols.

33. Explain why you think that it is important for people to realize that idols cannot see, hear, eat, or smell.

The Lord knew that the day would come when the people would turn away from Him and begin to serve other gods. This was the reason that God gave the people the promise that they would find Him at any time if they would seek for Him. God told the people of Israel that this promise would be true, even if it were in the latter days before the people of Israel returned to Him. God said that He would not forget His people. God had made a covenant with Abraham and God said that the covenant would never be broken. God is a merciful God and will always keep His promises. The Lord had done great things for Israel in the past and He would remember His promises in the future.

34. Read Deuteronomy 4:25-49 and write how the other people compare with Israel to God.

35. Explain why it was important for Israel to realize that the Lord promised to hear the people when they would seek Him with all their heart and soul.

36. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to know that the Lord will hear you when you truly seek Him.

God had brought the people of Israel out of Egypt and then had spoken to them from the middle of a fire. No nation had ever lived to whom God had spoken directly. God had also protected His people by doing great miracles for them. God did all of these things for Israel because of His love for Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. These things had all shown that God is the only true and living God. There are no other gods that can compare in any way with God. Since the Lord is so great, there is only one way to act toward Him. That way is to be obedient. If the people were obedient, God promised that He would give them long life.

37. Read Deuteronomy 4:25-49 and write the names of the three cities that were to be cities of refuge on the east side of the Jordan River.

38. Explain why the Lord chose to do many miracles that would show the people of Israel that He is the true and living God.

39. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life about the greatness of God from these verses.

Before the people crossed the Jordan River, Moses told them the names of the three cities that would be cities of refuge on the east side of the Jordan River. As you remember, these cities were the places where someone could run for safety if he had accidentally killed another person. The three cities that God chose on the east side of the river were Bezer, Ramoth and Golan. Later, three cities were also chosen on the west side of the river. The Lord was also going to have Moses do one other thing before he died. Moses was told to review the entire law for the people. We will see that this review of the law covers much of the rest of the book of Deuteronomy.

40. Read Deuteronomy 4:25-49 and write where Moses gave the people of Israel this review of the law.

41. Explain why it was important for Moses to review the entire law with the people of Israel before they entered the land that God had promised to them.

42. Explain why you think that it is also important for you to help other people become familiar

with the entire Word of God.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 3:1-4:49 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 3
Deuteronomy 5:1-6:25

Today, we will be starting our study of the review of the law. As Moses reviewed the law, he reminded the people of how their fathers had rebelled while he was on the mountain. Moses had been on the mountain to receive the law. Moses also told the people what the leaders of Israel had said when God spoke to them from the mountain. The people had been filled with fear as God spoke from the mountain. As a result, they did not want to hear the Lord speak again. God also taught the people of Israel about the importance of teaching the Word of God to their children. This is followed by instructions about the way to teach the children.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what God commanded the people in the Ten Commandments.
- Explain how Moses had prayed for the people.
- Explain how parents are to teach their children.
- Explain what the Lord said about obedience.

As we begin our study of the law, the very first part of the law that we study is the Ten Commandments. These commandments had been spoken to the people by God. They had also been written on pieces of stone by God at Mount Sinai. This was to make certain that the people would have a permanent copy of the law. When the Lord had spoken the law to the people, the people had been filled with fear because the Lord had spoken to them out of a fire. At that time, the people asked Moses to speak with the Lord and then speak to them, instead of having the Lord speak directly to them. God also reminded the people of Israel that He was the One that had brought them out of the land of Egypt.

1. Read Deuteronomy 5:1-21 and write down the first of the Ten Commandments.
2. Explain why the fear of the people of Israel caused them to tell Moses that they did not want to have God speak to them directly any more.
3. Explain why you think that when people today are controlled by fear that it is often hard for them to really hear the Word of God.

The first four commandments speak about the responsibility of man to God. People are to have no other gods. People are not to make any idols because they will begin to worship those idols. People are not to use the name of the Lord in any wrong way. Any person that uses the name of the Lord in a wrong way will certainly be guilty. The people were also to have one day each week set apart for rest. In the Old Testament, that day was Saturday. That had been the day that God had rested after He had finished creating the earth. Now, our day of rest and worship is on Sunday, because that is the day that Christ rose from the dead.

4. Read Deuteronomy 5:1-21 and write the first commandment that talks about the responsibility of mankind to other people.
5. Explain what these verses teach about the responsibility of mankind to worship and serve the Lord.
6. Explain why you think that Christians should choose to worship the Lord and rest on Sunday instead of Saturday.

Today, there are many young people who do not respect and honor their parents. However, we see that the commandment to honor the parents is the first commandment that contains a promise. Those children that honor their parents are promised a long and good life. The other commandments speak of murder, adultery, stealing, lying and desiring something that belongs to someone else. In the New Testament, we read that we are guilty of breaking these commandments if we think these thoughts in our hearts, even if we do not actually do them.

Then, the final commandment speaks of desiring something that belongs to someone else.

7. Read Deuteronomy 5:1-21 and write how many things we are commanded not to desire.

8. Explain why the command to honor parents is the first command that carries a promise to those who obey it.

9. Explain what you learn from the second part of the Ten Commandments about your responsibility to other people.

As we look at these commandments, we realize that it is totally impossible for any person to keep all of these laws in his or her own strength. Since that is true, we need to know the purpose of the law. The purpose of the law is to cause us to realize that it is completely impossible to come to God by our own efforts. We have all broken the law. This is the reason why people must place their trust in Christ for salvation. Once a person becomes a Christian, he is free from the law. He is now able to serve Christ in love. As a person grows in his love for Christ, that person wants to please Christ because of that love. He also realizes that he does not have to depend on keeping the law to be right in the sight of God.

10. Read Deuteronomy 5:1-21 and write how long God says the sins of the parents affect the future generations when the parents hate God.

11. Explain the purpose of the law.

12. Explain why it is important for you to know that once a person becomes a Christian that the person is no longer under the law.

Moses went on to explain what the people did when the Lord spoke to the people of Israel out of the middle of the fire. When the people of Israel heard God speak the Ten Commandments from the fire on top of the mountain, the people told the leaders to go and talk to Moses. These leaders admitted that they had seen and heard the greatness of God. They realized that there was no way that they could compare with God. They also realized that it is not common for a person that is alive on the earth to hear God talk. As a result, the leaders asked Moses a question.

13. Read Deuteronomy 5:22-33 and write the question that the leaders had asked Moses when God spoke from the mountain.

14. Explain why the people of Israel wanted the leaders to talk to Moses after God had spoken to the people out of the middle of the fire.

15. Explain why you think that the people were so controlled by fear that they did not want to hear God speak again.

This question shows the fear of the people. They were very afraid because they thought that they would die if they heard the voice of the Lord any more. Today, many people who are not Christians are afraid and do not want to hear the Word of God. People often do not like to hear the Word of God because of their fear of death. The people of Israel then told Moses to go and hear what the Lord had to say. Then, they said that Moses could tell the people the things that He had heard from the Lord. The people promised that they would hear and do whatever Moses told them to do.

16. Read Deuteronomy 5:22-33 and write who heard the words the people spoke to Moses that day.

17. Explain why the fear of death is one of the things that controls the people who have not placed their trust in Christ.

18. Explain why you think that the people said that they would rather hear the words of God from Moses than to hear them from God.

The Lord had heard the words of the people. Then, the Lord said that He wished that it was true that the people would hear and do the words of the Lord. The Lord wished that the words of the people had come from their hearts. However, the Lord knew the hearts of the people. He knew that they would not obey Him. Then, the Lord agreed to speak to Moses and let him

speak to the people. Moses was to teach the people the words of the Lord so that the people would obey the Lord. The Lord also promised a long and blessed life if the people were obedient.

19. Read Deuteronomy 5:22-33 and write where God had said that the people were not to turn from the words of the Lord.

20. Explain why the Lord knew that the people would not really hear His words whether they were spoken by God or by Moses.

21. Explain why it is important to you in your life to want to hear and obey the Word of God from your heart.

We go on to read the things that Moses was to teach to the people. The first thing that God told Moses to teach the people was how to teach their children. Here, we see that people do not automatically know how to teach their children about the Lord. God wanted the people to know how to teach their children so that the Word of God would be passed on to future generations. God promised that each generation that obeyed the Word of the Lord and passed it on to the next generation would have a long life. The Lord also promised that everything would go well for the people and they would grow into a great nation if they would obey the Lord.

22. Read Deuteronomy 6:1-15 and write what kind of a land God said that He was giving to the people.

23. Explain why it is important to understand that many parents do not automatically know how to teach their children about the Lord and need to have someone show them.

24. Explain why you realize that it is very important in your own life to teach your children and grandchildren about the Lord.

As the people went into the land of milk and honey, they were to remember that they only served one Lord. They were to love the Lord with every part of their lives. This included their spirit (heart), their soul, and their body (strength). The words that the Lord spoke to the people were not just to be heard and forgotten. Instead, they were to be learned so that the people would be able to remember them and obey them. Today, we also need to memorize the Word of God so that we know it, and can obey it. We are only able to use what we know, so we need to develop a good knowledge and understanding of the entire Word of God as we grow.

25. Read Deuteronomy 6:1-15 and write how God said that the people were to teach their children the Word of the Lord.

26. Explain why it is important for people to love the Lord with their whole heart, soul, and strength.

27. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to become familiar with the whole Word of God so that you can fully obey the Lord.

God says that the first way we teach our children is to love the Lord by our own example. God teaches us how we are to teach our children so that they really know the Word of God. We are to teach them during the day as we are sitting in our house. We are to teach our children the Word of God as we travel. We are to teach our children when they go to bed at night. We are to teach them when they get up in the morning. As we study these verses, we see that we are to be teaching our children throughout the day. We are to teach them from the time they get up in the morning until they go to bed in the evening. If we set an example by loving the Lord ourselves and then teaching our children throughout the day, every day, we will usually see our children grow up to love and serve the Lord.

28. Read Deuteronomy 6:1-15 and write where the people were to write the Word of God.

29. Explain what these verses teach about the way to teach our children so that they will know and obey the Word of God.

30. Explain why you think that the Lord wants us to use opportunities throughout each day to teach the Word of God to our children.

One of the most important ways that we teach our children is by our example. We must live what we are teaching. The Lord and His Word must be in the center of our hearts and in the center of our homes. The people were to remember to keep God in the center of their lives. It is very easy for people to forget the Lord if they fail to continue to teach about Him. When people drift away from the Word of God, they quickly begin to follow the things that the people around them are worshiping. When this happens, they are not providing a good example for their children and their children will quickly begin to follow their sinful example.

31. Read Deuteronomy 6:1-15 and write what Moses said the anger of the Lord might do to the people of Israel if they followed other gods.

32. Explain why parents need to understand that the most important way that they teach their children is by their own example.

33. Explain why children will quickly begin to follow the sinful examples of parents if the parents are not providing a godly example for their children.

The people were not to test God by following false gods. Otherwise, the people might be destroyed. Instead, the people were to put the Lord first in their lives so that He would give them the strength to obey Him. If the people obeyed the commandments of the Lord, they would be doing what was right and good. Then, the people would be able to possess the land that God had promised to Abraham several hundred years before. The people were also to destroy all of the enemies that were in the land of Israel.

34. Read Deuteronomy 6:16-25 and write what the people were to tell their children when the children asked the meaning of the commandments of the Lord.

35. Explain why God warned Israel He would destroy them if they followed false gods.

36. Explain why it is important to you to put the Lord first and ask Him for His strength to obey His Word.

The question of the children is a very important question. Many parents teach their children the various stories of the Bible. They teach their children about the commandments of God. However, they fail to explain to their children why the Bible was written. They fail to explain why Christ came to this earth. They fail to explain the purpose of many things that are written in the Bible. When children grow up and do not understand the purpose of these things, they see no reason for doing them and they often rebel. This is one of the reasons why we have a very rebellious generation today.

37. Read Deuteronomy 6:16-25 and write where the people were to tell their children that the Lord wanted to bring them.

38. Explain why it is important to help our children understand the purpose of the things that are written in the Bible.

39. Explain why it is important in your own life to know why you do what you do.

God said that He brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt so that He might bring them into the land of promise. It had not been the purpose of God to bring the people out into the wilderness to wander. The people had to wander for forty years in the wilderness because of their own rebellion. However, God still kept His promise to bring them into the land that He had promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Today, God has also called us for a purpose. We will not be wandering and experiencing a useless life unless we choose to live in rebellion against God.

40. Read Deuteronomy 6:16-25 and write for whose good it is that we should fear and honor the Lord.

41. Explain why God wanted the people to clearly understand that it was His purpose to bring them into the land that He had promised to them.

42. Explain why it is important to understand that God will keep His promises both to those who obey and to those who rebel.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 5:1-6:25 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 4
Deuteronomy 7:1-8:20

God had chosen the nation of Israel to be a nation that was set apart to worship and serve Him. As a result, God warned the people not to marry the people of the other nations. God knew that the people of the other nations would cause the people of Israel to sin and turn away from the Lord. God also gave the people some wonderful promises if they would be obedient to Him and follow His Word. We will learn about some of those promises as we study our lesson today. We will also learn what Moses said as he looked first at the past and then at the future.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why God said that the people of Israel were to be a separate people.
- Explain the promise that God gave Israel if they would be obedient.
- Explain what Moses said about the past.
- Explain what Moses said about the future.

The Lord told the people of Israel that they were going to go against seven nations that were stronger than Israel. These were the people that lived in the land that God had promised to Israel. However, the people of Israel did not need to be afraid as they went against their enemies. God promised that He would give the people of Israel victory over all of their enemies. God also told Israel that they were to completely destroy all of these nations. They were not to make any treaties with these people or show any mercy to them. God had told Abraham about six hundred years earlier that he would send Israel to Egypt for four hundred years because the iniquity of the Amorites was not yet full. God had spared them from judgment for all these years but now the time had come for judgment because of their sin.

1. Read Deuteronomy 7:1-11 and write what the people were not to make with the people of these other nations.
2. Explain why God said that He must judge the people and idols that were living in the land of Canaan.
3. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that you do not need to be afraid even when you face problems that seem like great enemies.

God knew that the people of Israel would quickly begin to follow the idols and the sinful practices of the people of Canaan if the people of Israel married these people of the land. As a result, God told Israel to completely destroy all of the people and their idols that were in Canaan. The metal and the stone idols were to be broken and the wooden idols were to be burned. The people of Israel were to be a holy people. God had chosen them and set them apart to serve Him. The Lord also said that He did not choose Israel because it was a great or a powerful nation.

4. Read Deuteronomy 7:1-11 and write how large Israel was when God chose them to become a nation.
5. Explain why it is shown throughout the Bible the danger of those who follow the Lord marrying those who do not follow the Lord.
6. Explain why it is important in your own life to know that God has called you to a holy life and has set you apart to serve Him.

The Lord chose the people of Israel because of His love. This same love caused the Lord to remember Israel and bring the people out of Egypt with a strong hand. The Lord is faithful. He will keep all of the promises that He has made. He will show mercy to all those who put their trust in Him. The Lord is also a holy God. He will judge all those who do evil and fail to put

their trust in Him. This was the reason that God wanted His people to do what is right. He did not want to have to judge them. Instead, He wanted to show His love to them.

7. Read Deuteronomy 7:1-11 and write to how many generations God said that He would keep His covenant.

8. Explain why it is important for people to understand that God is both a God of love and a holy God.

9. Explain why you are thankful that the death of Christ made it possible for God to be holy and judge sin and at the same time show love by allowing the blood of Christ to pay the penalty for sin and offer eternal life as a free gift to all who accept Him.

The Lord went on to promise that the people of Israel would have a great victory if they would depend on Him for strength. The Lord promised this great victory to the nation of Israel if they would be obedient to Him. In addition to victory, the Lord also promised to live with His people. He promised to bless them, their land, and their cattle. In fact, the blessing of Israel would be so great that the blessing of other nations could not even compare with the blessing of Israel. This blessing was promised to Israel if they made the choice to be obedient to the Lord.

10. Read Deuteronomy 7:12-26 and write what God promised the people of Israel about the diseases of Egypt.

11. Explain why it was important for Israel to know that God had promised that He would live with His people.

12. Explain why you are thankful that Christ not only lives with you, but also lives within your life so that it is possible to live your life by faith in the Son of God.

God said that the terrible diseases of Egypt would be on the enemies of Israel, and not on the people of Israel if they chose to obey Him. However, Israel was to completely destroy all of the enemies that God told them to destroy. Otherwise, the people of the land would cause the people of Israel to follow other gods. The people of Israel were also reminded that they did not need to be afraid of the power of these other nations. They did not need to wonder how they were going to drive these people of the other nations out of the land.

13. Read Deuteronomy 7:12-26 and write what the people were told to remember instead as they faced these other nations.

14. Explain why God told Israel that He was the One that would drive out their enemies and that they did not need to worry about how they were going to drive out their enemies.

15. Explain why you are thankful that you do not need to try and serve the Lord in your own strength but can depend on the power of the Lord to work through your life.

God reminded the people of the signs that He had done in Egypt to deliver the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt. He helped them remember the great power that He had shown in destroying Egypt because Pharaoh would not allow Israel to leave the land. God told the people to think about his victory over Egypt any time that they were tempted to be afraid of their enemies. God reminded the people that they were not fighting alone. Instead, the people were to remember that they served a great and powerful God and that He was the One that would fight for them.

16. Read Deuteronomy 7:12-26 and write why God said that He would not drive the people of the land out all at once.

17. Explain why it was important for Israel to remember what the Lord had done for them in the past when they faced their enemies in the future.

18. Explain why it is important in your own life to remember and give thanks to the Lord regularly for what He has done in your life and through your life.

When there are no people living in a particular area, the wild animals increase very rapidly. God said that He would drive out the people of the land as rapidly as Israel was prepared to take possession of the land. This way, the wild animals would not increase. God said that He would

completely destroy the people of the land. Then, Israel was to completely destroy the idols of the land. They were not to worship any of those idols or allow them to be brought into their houses. They were to hate these idols and completely destroy them so that they would not be tempted to worship them.

19. Read Deuteronomy 7:12-26 and write what God said that these idols were in His sight.

20. Explain what these verses promised Israel about the fact that they would have victory as they went into the land.

21. Explain why you think that the Lord said that He would destroy the people of the land but gave Israel the responsibility to destroy the idols.

Moses also explained to the people how the Lord had been with them and had supplied their needs. He began by reminding the people of the importance of being obedient to the Lord. If the people would do what the Lord said, they would have life. God would cause the people to multiply. They would also possess the land that God had promised to them. The people were also to remember how the Lord had led them for the forty years that they were in the wilderness. Here, we see that the people needed to be reminded of the blessings that come from serving the Lord.

22. Read Deuteronomy 8:1-6 and write why God proved and tested the people for forty years in the wilderness.

23. Explain why it was important for Israel to be reminded of how the Lord had been with them and supplied their needs.

24. Explain why it is important in your own life to be reminded of the blessings that come from serving the Lord.

Here, we also see the purpose of testing. The Lord wants to show us what is really in our hearts. The Lord knows our hearts, so He is not testing for His knowledge. However, we often deceive ourselves. As a result, God brings tests into our lives to show us what we are really like. One of the ways that the Lord tested the people of Israel was to allow them to become hungry. As you remember, the people began to complain when they ran out of food. Then, God supplied them with manna. Their complaining showed that they had not learned to trust the Lord and ask Him to supply their needs. It also showed that the people needed to depend on the Lord for strength instead of physical food. We live and have strength as we obey the Word of God.

25. Read Deuteronomy 8:1-6 and write what happened to the clothes of the people as they traveled.

26. Explain why the Lord tested the people of Israel so that they would understand the true condition of their hearts.

27. Explain why you are thankful when the Lord brings testing into your life so that you can understand the condition of your own heart.

During the entire forty years that the people were in the desert, their clothes did not become old and wear out. Instead, God kept those clothes exactly as they were when the people came out of Egypt. As the people traveled, their feet did not swell up or become sore. God caused the feet of the people to remain in perfect condition so that the people could travel easily. When God did discipline the people, He disciplined the people to show them His love. As a result, the people were encouraged to walk in the ways of the Lord and keep His commandments.

28. Read Deuteronomy 8:1-6 and write what God says is not the only thing by which men live.

29. Explain why it was important for Israel while they were in the desert that their clothes did not wear out and their feet did not swell.

30. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that when God disciplines you, He disciplines to show you His love.

Moses went on to tell the people about the land to which God would bring the people. It was a

good land. It was a land with plenty of water. It was a land where the fields produced a rich harvest. Here, we see that God said that the land was an ideal land. The Lord said that the land was such a good land that the people would never lack as long as they were obedient to Him. Later, God warned that He would stop the rain if the people were not obedient to Him and the land would not produce a rich and productive harvest. The Lord also said that the land was rich and had different metals in it. These metals included iron and bronze.

31. Read Deuteronomy 8:7-20 and write what the people were told to do when they had eaten and were full.

32. Explain why God said that He would stop the rain if the people of Israel chose to live in disobedience to Him.

33. Explain why it is important to you to know that the Lord will supply your needs as long as you are obedient to Him.

The people were to remember the Lord as they entered into the land that God had given to them. They were not to forget the commandments and the ordinances of the Lord. They were to obey the commandments of God. Otherwise God warned that it would be necessary to bring judgment. God promised the people that He would give them food and houses. He would cause their herds and flocks to multiply. He would cause their possessions to multiply. However, the people were not to let any of these things cause them to become proud. Otherwise, they would forget the Lord and His commandments and turn away from Him.

34. Read Deuteronomy 8:7-20 and write from what house the Lord had led the people of Israel.

35. Explain why pride would cause the people to forget the Lord and His commandments and turn away from Him.

36. Explain why you realize that it is important to you in your own life to have a humble attitude and not allow pride to take control in your heart.

The people were not to forget the Lord because He had done many things for them. He had brought them out of their slavery when they were in Egypt. He had led them through the wilderness and protected them from the fiery serpents. He had provided them with water out of the rock. The Lord had fed the people with manna when they ran out of food. The Lord had also done many things to test the people. However, the purpose of these tests was to strengthen the people. God allowed these tests so that He could show kindness and do goodness to the people at the end of these tests.

37. Read Deuteronomy 8:7-20 and write the greatest danger that the people faced as they entered into the land.

38. Explain why God warned the people not to forget Him.

39. Explain in what ways the Lord has used times of testing to strengthen you in your own spiritual life.

The Lord knew that the people would be tempted to think that all of the things that they had received were a result of their own efforts. This was the reason that the people were not to forget God. God was the One that had provided the people with all of these things. God would give these things to the people because of the covenant that He had made with Abraham. Now, God warned His people that He would judge them if they turned away from Him to follow other gods. God said that they would be destroyed just as they had destroyed other nations.

40. Read Deuteronomy 8:7-20 and write why God said that He would destroy the people.

41. Explain why God warned the people of Israel to remember that the blessings they received were not a result of their own efforts.

42. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to give thanks to the Lord daily for the things that He provides for you.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 7:1-8:20 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 5
Deuteronomy 9:1-10:22

Today, we will learn about the review that Moses gave the people about the rebellion of the people. Moses reminded the people of the rebellion of their fathers at Mount Sinai so that the people would realize the importance of obeying the Lord as they entered into the land that God had promised to them. God had almost destroyed the people because of that rebellion. However, God had shown His mercy and had forgiven the people. The Lord had shown this mercy by giving the people of Israel a second copy of the Ten Commandments instead of destroying them.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain how the people had turned away from the Lord.
- Explain how God felt about their rebellion.
- Explain how God had showed His mercy in spite of their rebellion.
- Explain why the people of Israel were to fear and honor the Lord.

The people of Israel were soon going to enter into the land of promise. In that land, they were going to find great and powerful nations. These nations had strong cities with high walls. The people of the land were also tall people. In fact, the children of Anak were great giants. These were the people and the cities that the Israelites would face as soon as they crossed the Jordan River. In fact, these were the very same people that had caused the Israelites to refuse to enter the land forty years earlier. However, Moses reminded the people that these giants and great cities did not need to make them fearful and afraid.

1. Read Deuteronomy 9:1-12 and write who promised to go in front of Israel as they went into the land.
2. Explain why the people of Israel did not need to be afraid of the giants or the great walled cities that were in the land of promise.
3. Explain why you think that people often look at the people and the problems, instead of looking to the Lord and trusting in Him.

Although the enemies were great and powerful, the people of Israel did not need to be afraid. God promised that He would go ahead of Israel. As a result, the people of Israel were to drive out the other nations quickly. The Lord also gave the reason why he was going to destroy the people that lived in the land of Canaan. They were going to be destroyed because of their great sin. The people of Israel were not righteous. However, this was a case where the sins of the people of the other nations in the land were much greater. In fact, God made it clear that the people of Israel were not righteous by giving a little picture of their sin.

4. Read Deuteronomy 9:1-12 and write what God said that the people of Israel were like.
5. Explain why the Lord made it clear to the people of Israel that He was judging the nations for their sins by giving Israel the power to defeat them.
6. Explain why it is important to you to know that one day the Lord will judge every person without Christ for their sin.

Then, Moses began to remind the people of Israel how rebellious and sinful the people of Israel were. Moses showed this rebellion of the people by telling them what had happened when the people were at Mount Horeb (Sinai). There, the people were almost destroyed by the anger of the Lord. It was at Mount Horeb that Moses had gone up into the mountain for forty days to receive the commandments of the Lord. The Lord had spoken to Moses and then had written the law on two pieces of stone so that the people would have a permanent copy of the law.

However, it was during those forty days that the people turned away from God and began worshiping a golden calf.

7. Read Deuteronomy 9:1-12 and write what the Lord had said to Moses to let him know what the people were doing.

8. Explain why the people had turned away from God so quickly, even though they had just seen what the Lord had done to Egypt, and had heard God speak from the mountain.

9. Explain why you think that the people of Israel could forget the Lord and His works so quickly.

The Lord saw that the people were rebellious and stiff-necked. The Lord said that He would destroy the people because of their great rebellion. Instead, God promised to take the family of Moses and make from it a greater nation than the nation of Israel. Then, Moses went down from the mountain to see the sins of the people. He carried with him the pieces of stone that had the Ten Commandments written on them. Moses saw the sins of the people and he was also very angry as he saw them worshiping the golden calf and committing other sins.

10. Read Deuteronomy 9:13-29 and write what Moses did with the pieces of stone when he saw the sins of the people.

11. Explain why the sins of the people of Israel caused Moses to become very angry when he saw them worshiping the golden calf.

12. Explain why you think that many people are rebellious and stiff-necked, even when they have seen the power of God.

Although Moses was very angry when he saw the sins of the people, he was also very concerned about the people of Israel. He prayed for them for forty days and forty nights. During that time he did not drink any water or eat any food. Moses was afraid that God was going to destroy the entire nation and so he prayed that God would spare the people. God heard the prayers of Moses and did not destroy the nation of Israel. Here, we see that the Lord does hear and answer our prayers when we pray for the spiritual needs of others and ask the Lord to work in their lives. Moses was also afraid that God would destroy someone else whom he loved.

13. Read Deuteronomy 9:13-29 and write who else Moses was afraid that God would destroy.

14. Explain why Moses was able to pray for the people for forty days even though he had been very angry with them.

15. Explain how the example of Moses helps you to know what you should do when you are angry at the sins of others.

Moses prayed for Aaron at the same time that he was praying for the entire nation of Israel. The reason that Moses was afraid that God would destroy Aaron was the fact that Aaron was the one that had made the golden calf that the people were worshiping. God also heard this prayer of Moses and spared the life of Aaron. Then, Moses took the golden calf and ground it into powder and dumped the powder into the stream of water from which the people drank. This incident did not stop the rebellion of the people. They rebelled against the Lord many more times.

16. Read Deuteronomy 9:13-29 and write how long Moses said that the people had been rebellious.

17. Explain why Moses ground the golden calf into powder and mixed it with the water that the people drank.

18. Explain why you think that Moses was concerned that God might destroy Aaron for his sin.

The people of Israel had been rebellious against God even during the time that they were living in the land of Egypt. This was the reason that Moses had spent so long praying for the people. Moses reminded the Lord of His promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Moses knew that the rebellion of the people deserved judgment. However, Moses did not want the people of the

other nations to speak evil of the name of the Lord because God had destroyed His people out in the desert. Moses reminded the Lord that the people were His people even though they were rebellious.

19. Read Deuteronomy 9:13-29 and write what Moses had told the Lord that the people of the nations would say if He destroyed Israel.

20. Explain what these verses teach about the rebellion of the people of Israel when they were at Mount Sinai.

21. Explain why one of the real concerns of Moses as he prayed was that the people of the other nations would not speak evil of the Lord.

The Lord did forgive His people and showed great mercy to them. The Lord told Moses to prepare two new pieces of stone so that the Lord could write the law a second time. Moses obeyed the Lord and prepared the pieces of stone. Then, Moses went up on the mountain to meet the Lord. Today, we also need to meet with the Lord. We need to let the Lord speak through His Word to us. This is the reason why it is good to begin each day by studying the Bible and letting God speak to us through His Word. Just as the Lord gave the law to Moses so that he could teach the law to the people, the Lord will also teach us through His Word.

22. Read Deuteronomy 10:1-7 and write what God wrote on these new tablets of stone.

23. Explain why it was important for Moses to go up to the mountain and meet the Lord after God had showed His great mercy to Israel.

24. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to meet the Lord daily and let Him speak to you through His Word.

God wanted His people to have a permanent copy of the Ten Commandments. As a result, God wrote the commandments in stone so that the people would have the law in a form that could be kept permanently. These pieces of stone were to be kept in the Ark of the Covenant. On the Day of Atonement each year, the blood was placed on the mercy seat which was on the top of the Ark of the Covenant. This was a picture of the fact that the blood covered the sins that were written on the law. In the New Testament, we learn that Christ took away our sin and has made us free from the law. Because of the blood of Christ, we are no longer bound by the law.

25. Read Deuteronomy 10:1-7 and write what Moses did after God gave him the second copy of the law.

26. Explain why it was important that the pieces of stone with the Ten Commandments were placed under the mercy seat on the Ark of the Covenant.

27. Explain why it is important to you to know that Christ both took away your sin and also made you free from the law.

Moses had met the Lord on the mountain, and he had received the commandments of the Lord. As soon as he received the law, he went down to the camp. The law was later placed in the ark that was in the center of the camp. Here, we see that God wanted the law in the place where the people would be continually reminded of it. In the same way, as we spend time in Bible study with the Lord each morning, we are also given a message to share. We need to take that message with us as we go through the day. If the Word of God is in the center of our thoughts, it will be a part of our conversation throughout the day as we talk to others.

28. Read Deuteronomy 10:1-7 and write where Aaron died.

29. Explain how Moses gave us an example by taking the Word that the Lord had given to him to the center of the camp.

30. Explain why the Word of God will be a part of our conversation as we talk with others throughout the day if the Word of God is in the center of our thoughts.

We go on to read how the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to serve Him. As a part of their duties, the Levites were given the responsibility of carrying the Ark of the Covenant as the people traveled through the wilderness. We also learn that the tribe of Levi was not given a

separate inheritance. Instead, the people were to give a tithe to support the Levites so that the Levites could spend their time doing the work of the Lord. After the Lord had given Moses these instructions, Moses was told to return to the camp and prepare to go to the land of promise.

31. Read Deuteronomy 10:8-22 and write what land God said the people were to go and possess.

32. Explain why it was important for the Lord to set apart the tribe of Levi for a ministry of service to the Lord.

33. Explain why you think that the Lord chose to provide support for the Levites through the tithe of the others tribes.

As the people of Israel were now preparing to go into that land that God had promised them, God told them that they were to do several things. They were to fear the Lord. They were to walk in His ways. They were to love the Lord and serve Him with all of their heart and soul. They were also to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord. The Lord said that they should do all of these things for their own good. As we are obedient to the Lord, we are able to enjoy the blessing of the Lord. We have inner peace because we know that we are doing what is right.

34. Read Deuteronomy 10:8-22 and write what these verses say about heaven.

35. Explain why the Lord said that walking in the ways of the Lord and loving and serving the Lord was for the good of the people of Israel.

36. Explain why you are thankful that the Lord gives you inner peace as you love and serve Him in your life.

Both the heavens and the earth belong to the Lord because He created them. The Lord also chose the fathers of the nation of Israel because of His love for them. As a result, the people were encouraged not to be rebellious or hardhearted any more. Instead, they were to realize that God is the One that is over all things. He is the Lord of Lords and has all power. He is able to do all things. God does not play any favorites. Instead, God helps the needy and loves the stranger.

37. Read Deuteronomy 10:8-22 and write how the people were to treat those that were strangers.

38. Explain what these verses teach about the greatness of God.

39. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to continue to grow in your understanding of the greatness of the Lord.

Because God is so great, the people were to do several things. They were to love any strangers that lived in their land because they had been strangers in Egypt. They were to fear the Lord and serve Him. They were to give their praise to God because He had done great and wonderful things for them. They were to remember how the Lord had blessed them and caused them to become a great nation. When they went into Egypt, there were only seventy people. While they were in Egypt, the Lord had blessed them and they had become a great nation.

40. Read Deuteronomy 10:8-22 and write how the Lord had made them increase while they were in the land of Egypt.

41. Explain why the Lord said that the people of Israel were to show love to any strangers that would live in their land.

42. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to love and serve Christ in thanks to Him for all that He has done for you.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 9:1-10:22 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 6
Deuteronomy 11:1-12:32

We have been reminded several times of the importance of obeying the Word of the Lord. Today, we will see that the Lord reminded the people of Israel again about the importance of obeying the Lord. The Lord promised the people of Israel that they would receive many blessings as they were obedient to Him. Because of the importance of obedience, God again reminded His people about the way they were to teach their children. The spiritual growth of many people is closely related to the way they are taught by their parents in their homes. That was why God wanted the people to understand the importance of teaching their children the Word of God.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what God said about the importance of obedience.
- Explain what God said about teaching children.
- Explain why the people were to have one place to worship.
- Explain what God said about blood.

As we begin our study of this chapter, we see that the people were reminded again to love the Lord. They were reminded to be obedient to the Lord at all times. The Lord said that the people had seen many examples of the results of disobedience. They had seen the great power of God against those who did evil. The people that had been children when Israel was in Egypt had seen the signs and the miracles that the Lord did in order to bring them out of Egypt. God had brought great judgment on the Egyptians because of their sin. When Pharaoh decided to take his army and recapture the people of Israel, Israel had seen the judgment of Pharaoh and his army.

1. Read Deuteronomy 11:1-17 and write how God had used the Red Sea to judge the rebellion of Pharaoh.
2. Explain how the people who had been children when Israel left Egypt were aware of the power of God because of what they had seen God do to Egypt.
3. Explain why you think that the Lord continued to emphasize the importance of obedience to Israel.

The Lord had also judged many other forms of rebellion as the people traveled through the desert. One such rebellion was the rebellion of Dathan and Abiram. Because of their rebellion, God caused the earth to open up and swallow them, their families, and their possessions. They went down into the earth while they were still alive. Again, we are reminded that sin and rebellion bring death. The people of Israel had seen all of these things that the Lord had done. Now, they were encouraged to follow the Lord so that they would be strong. God promised that if the people would follow the Lord, they would have a long life in the land of promise.

4. Read Deuteronomy 11:1-17 and write how rich the Lord said that the land of promise was.
5. Explain why it is necessary for the Lord to judge rebellion when people choose to rebel against Him.
6. Explain why you think that God chose to judge the rebellion of Dathan and Abiram by taking them and their families down into the earth while they were still alive.

God said that the land of promise was very different from the land of Egypt. The land of Egypt was quite flat in the area where the people of Israel had lived. Much of the land was watered by the Nile River when it flooded each year. Irrigation was also used to water part of the land of Egypt. This was possible because the land was so flat. However, the land that God had

promised to Israel was quite different. It was a land of hills and valleys. The water for the crops came from the rain. This meant that the people would need to trust the Lord to provide the rain for their crops.

7. Read Deuteronomy 11:1-17 and write who cared for the land that God had promised to the people of Israel.

8. Explain why it was much more important to receive rain from the Lord in the land of promise than it had been when the people were in Egypt.

9. Explain why it is important in your own life to realize that you need to trust the Lord to provide what you need day by day.

Because God watched over the land and provided the water for it with the rain, God said that the land would be blessed as long as the people obeyed the Lord. God promised to give both the early and the later rain, so the land would produce the best possible crops. The fields would also have plenty of grass to feed the cattle. The people would have great blessings as long as they were obedient. However, if the people began to follow other gods they would feel the anger of the Lord. God would stop the rain, so the crops and the grass would not grow any more. Then, the people would quickly become hungry and die.

10. Read Deuteronomy 11:1-17 and write what God said would cause Him to stop the rain after the people came into the land.

11. Explain what these verses teach about both the results of obedience and disobedience to the Lord.

12. Explain why you think the first judgment that God said He would bring for sin was to stop the rain.

Since it is so important to obey the Lord, the Lord told the people again how to teach their children, so that the children would obey the Lord. The people were to keep the Word of the Lord in the center of their lives. They were to teach the Word of God to their children in their homes and as they traveled. They were to teach their families and the other people who lived in their homes both in the morning and in the evening. In fact, the people were to teach their children at all times. The people were also to keep the Lord in the center of their homes. This meant that they were to serve the Lord from their hearts so that it affected everything that they did in their homes.

13. Read Deuteronomy 11:18-32 and write what the people were promised about their days if they would teach their children.

14. Explain why God told the people of Israel that it was important for them to serve Him from their hearts in addition to teaching their children at all times.

15. Explain why you have found it important in your own life to serve the Lord from your heart.

God promised here that both the parents and the children would have a long life if the parents taught the children to follow the Lord. There were also other promises if the people would be obedient. The Lord promised to drive out all of the other nations even if those other nations were greater and more powerful. The Lord also said that all of the places where the people walked would belong to Israel. No person or nation would be able to stand against the people of Israel. Instead, the other nations would fear Israel. Then, God gave the people a choice. God said that the people could have a choice of a blessing or a curse.

16. Read Deuteronomy 11:18-32 and write what the people were told to do in order to receive the blessing.

17. Explain why God told the people of Israel that they could choose whether they wanted a blessing or a curse.

18. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that the Lord also gives you the same choice.

We have seen that the Lord gave the people of Israel a choice many times. Now, we see that

God offered the people a choice again. The people could enjoy either a blessing or a curse. However, they had to make their own decision. Today, God still offers a choice to all people. They can either choose to serve the Lord or they can choose to rebel against Him. Those who make the choice to put their trust in Christ, will have eternal blessing. Those who make the choice to reject Christ and the life that He offers, are making the choice to receive eternal judgment.

19. Read Deuteronomy 11:18-32 and write the two mountains between which the people were to review the blessing and the curse after they crossed the Jordan River.

20. Explain the choice that these verses offered to the people of Israel as they prepared to enter the land of promise.

21. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to give people choices, and explain both the blessings of good choices and the consequences of sinful choices.

The Lord knew that it would be easy for the people to rebel if there were other gods in the land. For this reason, the Lord reminded the people again to destroy all of the false gods of the people when they entered into the land. They were to break down the altars and burn the idols. Nothing was to be left in the land which their children might begin to worship at a later time. The people were not to be tempted to worship any other gods. Instead, God said that there would be one place where the people of Israel would gather to worship Him.

22. Read Deuteronomy 12:1-16 and write who was to choose the place where the people were to worship.

23. Explain why it was important for the people to destroy all of the idols that they found in the land and not let any of them remain.

24. Explain why you think that it is very easy for people to begin to worship some kind of an object or person instead of trusting the Lord.

The Lord said that when the people reached the land of promise, they were only to worship in the place that the Lord chose. That was the place where the people were to bring all of their sacrifices and offerings. That was the place where they were to eat the offerings that they offered to the Lord. The people were not to do the things that they thought were right. Instead, they were to study the Word of God and do what God said was right. That way they would know that the things that they did were pleasing to the Lord. Today, we also need to study the Bible instead of doing the things that are right in our own eyes.

25. Read Deuteronomy 12:1-16 and write how the Lord promised the people they would live when He gave them rest from their enemies.

26. Explain why the Lord said that the people of Israel were to offer all of their sacrifices and offerings at the place that the Lord chose.

27. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to learn what God has said is right and what is wrong by studying the Word of God regularly.

God promised the people that they would live in peace and safety when they entered the land as long as they were obedient to Him. Then, God said that He would show them the place to set up the tabernacle. All of the sacrifices were to be brought to that tabernacle so that the people would not begin offering burnt offerings to false gods. The people were also to be filled with joy as they served the Lord. When the people killed an animal at home, they were not to eat any of the blood. Instead, they were to pour the blood out on the ground and cover it with dirt.

28. Read Deuteronomy 12:1-16 and write who God said was allowed to eat the animals that they killed in their own homes.

29. Explain why the people were to have only one place where they worshiped the Lord and offered their sacrifices.

30. Explain why you think that God said the people were to cover the blood with dirt when they killed an animal at their homes.

The animals that the people ate in their homes were not to be the offerings that they offered to

the Lord. They could eat the animals that were not sacrifices to the Lord in their homes. However, they were to take their offerings to the Lord to the tabernacle. Then, the people could eat part of the offering at the tabernacle. The people were also encouraged to be filled with joy as they offered these sacrifices to the Lord. If we are not joyful when we give our gifts to the Lord, there is really no purpose in giving those gifts. As the people gave their gifts to the Lord, we see that the Lord reminded them that they were not to forget the Levites.

31. Read Deuteronomy 12:17-32 and write how long the people were told to remember the Levites.

32. Explain why the people could be filled with joy when they were offering their sacrifices to the Lord.

33. Explain why you know that you can also be thankful and filled with joy when you offer your gifts to the Lord.

The Lord knew that it would be difficult for the people to bring their animals to the tabernacle to be killed when the people received their own land. The distance would make that impossible for those tribes that were far from the tabernacle. As a result, God told the people how they were to kill their animals at their own homes. The people were to make certain that they drained all of the blood out of the animals. God had said to Noah, after he came off the ark following the flood, that the life is in the blood, and so, God said that the people were not to eat any blood.

34. Read Deuteronomy 12:17-32 and write what the people were to do with the blood so that it would not be eaten.

35. Explain why God told the people that they were to make sure that they drained all of the blood from the animals and did not eat any of the blood.

36. Explain why you think that the early church decided at the Council of Jerusalem in Acts 15 that the Gentiles should avoid things strangled and the eating of blood.

The Lord gave the people of Israel a reason why they should not eat the blood. God said that a man and his children would all have a better life if they did not eat the blood. This is true because blood carries diseases. Those who eat blood will experience more sickness and disease. Although the people could kill their own animals to eat, they were not to kill the animals that they offered as sacrifices. Instead, the sacrifices were to be killed at the tabernacle by a priest and the blood was to be burned on the altar. In this way, no one would eat this blood.

37. Read Deuteronomy 12:17-32 and write what the people of the land had offered as sacrifices to their gods.

38. Explain what the Lord teaches in these verses about the eating of blood.

39. Explain why you think that the blood of the sacrifices that the people offered to the Lord was to be burned on the altar.

God promised the people that they and their children would continue to have a long and good life, as long as they obeyed the commandments of the Lord. Then, the Lord reminded the people again that they were not to follow the gods of the surrounding nations. God hated the sins that the people of Canaan committed in their worship of their false gods. We read that the nations that lived in the land that God had promised to Israel even burned their own children as sacrifices to their false gods. Then, God reminded the people to do the things that He had commanded.

40. Read Deuteronomy 12:17-32 and write what God said about changing the commandments of God.

41. Explain why God said that He hated the sins that the people of Canaan committed in their worship of their false gods.

42. Explain why you think that the Lord promised the people that they would live long and fruitful lives if they were obedient to Him.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 11:1-12:32 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 7
Deuteronomy 13:1-14:29

Today, we are living in a day when many people are making predictions about what is going to happen in the future. However, this is not something that is new. People have been trying to predict what was going to happen in the future for thousands of years. In fact, people were already trying to predict the future back in the time of Moses. As a result, the people were told how to recognize the difference between a true prophet and a false prophet. God said that a false prophet was to be put to death so that he would not lead the people the wrong way. Otherwise, the people would become controlled by the power of the devil.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain how to recognize a false prophet.
- Explain how God said that the sinful cities should be judged.
- Explain what God said about mourning.
- Explain what God said about the food of the people.

God knew that people would arise that would try to lead the people of Israel the wrong way. These people would include people who claimed to be prophets, dreamers of dreams, or others who tried to predict the future. God did give the people true prophets that spoke of the future. In fact, the things that these true prophets said are written down for us in the Bible. Some of the things that these true prophets said have still not happened yet, so we can learn about things that are still in the future by studying the Word of God. However, God wants us to be able to recognize those that are false prophets so that we will not be deceived by them.

1. Read Deuteronomy 13:1-5 and write the first thing that false prophets will say to try to lead people astray.
2. Explain why it was important for the people in the nation of Israel to recognize when a person was a false prophet.
3. Explain why you are thankful that the Lord has given you the Word of God so that you can learn about things that are still in the future.

Any person that tries to get us to turn away from the Lord and serve false gods is a false prophet. He is speaking for the devil and is not speaking for God. Today, there are many leaders of churches who are saying that the Bible is not true. These verses say that such people are also false prophets because they are trying to cause people to turn away from the Lord. They are working to cause people to follow other things. The Lord said that He would allow such prophets to come among the people to show whether the people really loved the Lord from their hearts. These false prophets are actually a test to show how a person thinks and feels.

4. Read Deuteronomy 13:1-5 and write what God said should be done with a false prophet.
5. Explain why the Lord said that He would allow false prophets to test the people so that they would know if they loved the Lord from their hearts.
6. Explain why you realize that it is important for you in your own life not to be deceived by people who say that the Bible is not true.

We will learn later in the book of Deuteronomy that anyone who makes even one prophecy that does not happen exactly as that person has spoken, is also a false prophet. Here, we see that the people of Israel were to put a false prophet to death, so that the person could not continue to lead the people the wrong way. A false prophet was one that was trying to lead the people away from God. God said that the way to get rid of this evil was to put the false prophet to death. Then, he could not continue to lead others the wrong way.

7. Read Deuteronomy 13:1-5 and write what the people were to do, instead of listening to those who were false prophets.
8. Explain what these verses teach about the way to recognize those who are false prophets.
9. Explain why you think that the Lord said that a person that made even one false prophecy was to be put to death.

God knew that there would also be men and women who might try to lead their families to follow other gods. These people who try to turn people from the Lord might even include children, brothers, or other close relatives. They might try to get their families to worship the false gods of the surrounding nations. In fact, they might even try to lead their families to worship the gods of nations that were a long way from Israel. God said that the people were not to listen to any relatives that might try to cause the people to follow false gods. They were not to allow these relatives to continue to lead others the wrong way.

10. Read Deuteronomy 13:6-18 and write what was to be done to any person that encouraged others to follow false gods.
11. Explain why the Lord warned Israel that there might even be family members that would try to lead the people away from the Lord.
12. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to make sure that you do not get deceived by those who follow false gods.

God knows how easy it is for people to be led the wrong way by those who follow false gods. God said that such people were to be put to death. The one who heard the person speak to lead others astray was to be the first to start the process of putting the evil person to death. He was to throw the first stone. Then, all of the other people were to throw stones at the person until the person was dead. God said that such people were to be killed so that all Israel would learn to fear the Lord. God said that such a severe judgment would keep the rest of the people from following such wickedness.

13. Read Deuteronomy 13:6-18 and write what certain men that were evil might say to the people of a whole city.
14. Explain why God said that the punishment for someone who tried to get Israel to turn to other gods was death by stoning.
15. Explain why you think that God gave Israel such a severe penalty for those who would try to lead others to follow idols.

It was possible that evil men and false teachers might cause entire cities to turn away from the Lord to serve other gods. When the rest of the people of Israel heard that a certain city had begun to follow other gods, the people were to send men to find out if the things that they had heard were true. This was to make certain that a person did not spread a false rumor about a city. God said that a city was evil if it had followed other gods. However, these men were to check to make certain that the person who gave the report was telling the truth and was not just trying to destroy that city.

16. Read Deuteronomy 13:6-18 and write what God said should be done to a city if that city had begun to follow false gods.
17. Explain why God said that the people of Israel were to carefully check when a person said a city was following false gods to determine whether it was true or just a rumor.
18. Explain why you think that a person that spreads false rumors can also be very dangerous.

God said that any city that began to follow idols was to be destroyed completely. All of the people in that city were to be killed. All of their animals were also to be destroyed. Then, all of their possessions were to be burned with fire. A city that was destroyed because the people had turned away from the Lord and had followed idols was never to be rebuilt. The people were not to keep anything that had been a part of that city because that city had done evil. Only by completely destroying that city would the holiness of God be satisfied.

19. Read Deuteronomy 13:6-18 and write what the Lord said he would do if the people obeyed Him and completely destroyed that city.
20. Explain what these verses teach about the judgment of those who chose to follow idols instead of following the Lord.
21. Explain why you think that God said a city that followed idols was to be completely destroyed along with every person and every thing in that city.

God promised that if the people would destroy any city that followed idols that He would show His kindness and mercy to Israel. The Lord said that He would show compassion on Israel and multiply them as a nation because of their obedience. God would show His love for Israel. Then, God gave the people a commandment that we are still to follow today. First, the people were to hear the commandments of the Lord. Then, the people were to do what they had heard. Here, we see that the Lord says that true obedience is both hearing and doing. Today, we are also told to obey the Word of the Lord and not just hear it.

22. Read Deuteronomy 14:1-2 and write whose children God said the people of the nation of Israel were.
23. Explain why it is important that God told Israel that He would multiply them as a nation if they were obedient to Him.
24. Explain why it is important for you to both hear and obey the commandments of the Lord.

God said that the people of Israel were called to be His children. For this reason, they were to be different from the people of the surrounding nations. The people of the surrounding nations did certain things to show their sorrow when they died. One of these things, was to cut off part of the hair of the eyebrows. God said that the people of Israel were not to cut off any part of their eyebrows when someone died. God also calls us to be different from the world as Christians. We are to serve the Lord. We are to allow the Lord to change and transform our lives as we learn His Word and put His commandments into practice in our lives.

25. Read Deuteronomy 14:1-2 and write what kind of people the Lord had chosen the people of Israel to be.
26. Explain why God told the people of Israel that they were to be different from the nations that surrounded them.
27. Explain why you think that your life will have a great impact for the Lord if you are being transformed by the Lord through learning and obeying His Word.

The people of Israel had been chosen by God. They were chosen to be His own special people. They were to be a holy people. They were to be different from the people of the other nations. They were to be a people that were set apart to worship and serve the Lord. Today, we have also been set apart to worship and serve the Lord when we placed our trust in Christ. We have been given the Holy Spirit to give us the power to live lives that are different from the people around us. The only way that the people around us are going to listen when we speak about the Lord, is if our lives are an example for the Lord. We will only be a real example for the Lord when we are yielding our lives to the Holy Spirit so that we have His strength to serve Him.

28. Read Deuteronomy 14:1-2 and write what God had done for Israel that He had done for no other nation.
29. Explain what it means to be a special people that are set apart for God.
30. Explain why our worship will only be true worship and our service will only be effective service for the Lord as we are yielding to the power of the Holy Spirit.

Moses also gave a review of the dietary laws that the Lord had given to the people of Israel. These dietary laws told the people of Israel what kinds of meat they could eat. God said that the people were only to eat the animals, birds, and fish that were clean animals. They were not to eat any animal that was unclean. Anything that ate garbage was unclean. Anything that ate other birds or animals was unclean. The only clean animals were those animals that ate plants,

the fruit of the plants or some other form of vegetation.

31. Read Deuteronomy 14:3-29 and write what God said about any animal that had died of itself.
32. Explain why it was important for the people of Israel to only eat the meat of animals that were clean animals.
33. Explain why you think that God said the people of Israel should only eat animals that ate vegetation and not animals that ate garbage or other animals.

Any animal that died of itself might have a disease. Since the people did not know the reason for the death of the animal, they were not to eat the dead animal because they were to be a holy people. They were not to eat such an animal, even if the people of the surrounding nations ate the animals that died of themselves. The people were also warned not to boil a young goat in the milk of its mother. This was part of the idol worship of the surrounding nations. God did not want the people of Israel to become involved, in any way, with the sinful practices of the other nations. God knew that such things would soon lead to idol worship.

34. Read Deuteronomy 14:3-29 and write what God said to the people of Israel about giving a tithe of their seed to the Lord to show their thanks to Him.
35. Explain why the people of Israel were told not to eat an animal that died of itself even if that was common in the nations that surrounded them.
36. Explain why you think that the Lord told the people of Israel not to practice any of the things that the surrounding nations did in their idol worship.

The people were to give one tenth of everything that they received to the Lord. This included a tenth of their crops, their cattle, and everything else that they received. This tithe was to be brought to the tabernacle each year. If the people lived too far from the tabernacle to bring their animals and crops, they were to sell the tenth and take the money to the tabernacle. Then, they were to use that money to buy other animals at the tabernacle and offer those animals as a sacrifice. Whether the people lived close to the tabernacle or far from it, they were to sacrifice a tenth of all that they had to the Lord. (They ate a part because this was both worship of the Lord and fellowship with the Lord).

37. Read Deuteronomy 14:3-29 and write for whom they were to bring their tithe at the end of three years.
38. Explain what these verses teach that the Lord taught the people of Israel about tithing to Him.
39. Explain why you think the people were told that they were to give a tithe to the Lord by burning it as a sacrifice (see also Deut. 12:13-15).

In addition to the tithe that the people were to sacrifice to the Lord each year, the people were also to give a tithe to the Levites to supply the needs of the Levites. In addition, the people were to bring still another tithe every third year. This tithe was for the poor, the widow and any others that might be in need. Between the tithe for the Lord, the tithe for the Levites and the tithe each third year for the poor, the people gave almost one-fourth of all that they received to the Lord. Here, we see that the tithing of the people of Israel was much different than most people teach when they talk about tithing.

40. Read Deuteronomy 14:22-29 and write what the Lord promised to do if the people gave their tithes to the Lord.
41. Explain why it was important for the people of Israel to give a tithe every third year to help provide for the poor and needy.
42. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to have a great concern for the poor and needy.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 13:1-14:29 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 8
Deuteronomy 15:1-16:22

We have learned many things about the way that the Lord worked in the lives of the people of Israel. We have seen that the Lord gave the nation of Israel certain times when the people were to spend extra time remembering what God had done for them. Today, we will learn more about one of those special times. That time was the seventh year. During the seventh year the people were not to plant any crops. Instead, they were to allow the land to rest during the seventh year. It was also at this time that the people were to let their servants that were Israelites go free.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what the people were to do in the seventh year.
- Explain what you learn about a love slave.
- Explain what the Lord said about the Passover.
- Explain what the Lord said about the other feasts.

We have learned in an earlier study that the seventh year was to be a year in which the land rested. Today, we will see that the seventh year was also a very important year for those who were poor and needy. God said that in the seventh year all past debts were to be forgiven. If one person owed another person money, the person that was to receive the money was to forgive the debt of the poor person in the seventh year. That debt was not to be held against the poor person any longer if the person was from Israel. Any person that was from Israel was a brother and was not to be kept in debt permanently.

1. Read Deuteronomy 15:1-11 and write from whom the people could still require a debt after seven years.
2. Explain why God was concerned about protecting the poor by telling the people of Israel that they were to forgive all debts in the seventh year.
3. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to show your concern for the poor by being willing to forgive their debts to you.

The requirement to forgive past debt was only applied to the nation of Israel. The people of Israel were always to forgive the debt of another Israelite at the seventh year. The only time that this law would not apply, would be if there were no poor people that were in debt. The people were also reminded that they would be blessed by the Lord if they were obedient to His commands. God said that the people of Israel could loan money to other nations but they should not borrow money from other nations. God said that they might also rule over other nations.

4. Read Deuteronomy 15:1-11 and write what God said He would not let the other nations do to Israel if the people were obedient to Him.
5. Explain why Israel was allowed to loan money to other nations but God said that they were not to borrow money from other nations.
6. Explain why you think that the people of Israel were to treat every person of their own nation as a brother and forgive their debts in the seventh year.

As long as the people of Israel were obedient to the Lord, the people did not need to worry about the other nations ruling over them. God also told the people of Israel that they were to show great kindness to the poor. They were not to keep their money from the poor just because a poor person might not be able to pay the money back. When a man of Israel saw another Israelite in need, that man was to open his hand wide to the poor person. This meant that he

was to give generously to help the person in need. Here, we see that the Lord has a great concern for the poor and if we are really following the Lord we will also have that same concern for the poor.

7. Read Deuteronomy 15:1-11 and write of what the people were told to beware of.

8. Explain why God told the people of Israel that they were to share with the poor, even when the poor could not pay them back.

9. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to share generously with those who are in need.

The Lord also knew the hearts of people. He knew that some of the people might begin to think how long it was until the seventh year when they saw the poor and needy. The Lord knew that some would refuse to loan to the poor person because the seventh year would soon come and they might not be repaid. As a result, the Lord warned the people to give generously and not be concerned about whether they would be repaid. The Lord promised that He would bless the people if they would give generously without concern about whether they would be repaid. The people were to open their hands wide even if it was only a few months to the seventh year.

10. Read Deuteronomy 15:1-11 and write what God said would never cease out of the land.

11. Explain what these verses teach about the importance of helping the poor and needy.

12. Explain why you can share generously with the poor and know that the Lord will supply your needs.

At times, one of the people of Israel would become the servant of another Israelite. This could happen to pay for a debt or if a person was caught stealing and could not afford to make restitution as well as for several other reasons. However, God said that such people were not to be kept as permanent slaves. Instead, these servants were to be set free after they had worked for the person for six years. When a servant was freed after he had worked for six years, he was not to leave the house of his master with empty hands. Instead, the master was to give the servant enough so that he could get established and earn a living so that he would not become a servant again. The people were also to remember that they were once slaves in the land of Egypt.

13. Read Deuteronomy 15:12-23 and write why a man might say that he did not want to leave his master at the end of six years.

14. Explain why the people of Israel were to treat one another as hired servants and not as slaves.

15. Explain why you think that a person who had another Israelite work for him for six years was to give that person enough when he went free to get himself established.

There were times when a man served as a servant to another man that he came to love his master so much that he did not want to leave his master. Instead, he wanted to serve that master for the rest of his life. In order to show this love, the servant would have the master make a hole in his ear to show that he wanted to be the servant of his master for life. Then, that servant would serve his master for the rest of his life. He would not go out and begin working for himself. There were also women servants that also desired to be a love servant for life.

16. Read Deuteronomy 15:12-23 and write what was to be done to a woman that wanted to be a love servant for the rest of her life.

17. Explain why a person was to have his master make a hole in his ear when he wanted to serve that master for the rest of his life.

18. Explain why you think that some of the people would love their masters so much that they would not want to go free at the end of six years.

The love servant gives us a beautiful picture of the relationship that we should want to have with Christ. Christ chose us to be His because He loved us. Christ bought us with His own blood when we were slaves to sin. Now, we are His servants. However, we should not feel that

we have to serve Christ because it is a requirement. Instead, we should want to serve Christ because of our love for Him. If we are serving Christ because of our love for Him, we will want to do more than just meet the requirements of any law. Instead, we will have a desire to love and serve Christ because of the fact that He gave His life for us. The Lord also reminded the people of Israel that they were to give the first of their flock to the Lord.

19. Read Deuteronomy 15:12-23 and write what they were to do with the first-born of their flocks.

20. Explain why Christians should want to serve the Lord because of their love for Him and not because of any requirement to do so.

21. Explain what it means to you to be a love servant of Christ for the rest of your life.

The Lord told the people what they were to do with the first-born of their flocks. They were to bring all of the first-born of their flocks as a sacrifice to the Lord. The people were to bring that first-born animal to the tabernacle and offer it as a sacrifice unless the animal had a blemish. If the animal had a blemish, it was to be eaten at home and the blood was to be poured out on the ground. This was to make certain that they did not eat the blood. We go on to read about the Passover. The purpose of the Passover was to help the people of Israel remember the way the Lord had brought them out of the land of Egypt.

22. Read Deuteronomy 16:1-12 and write how long the people were to eat unleavened bread at the time of the Passover.

23. Explain why the Lord told the people of Israel that they were to bring the first-born animals of their flock as a sacrifice to the Lord.

24. Explain why you think that it was important to the people of Israel to observe the Passover every year to remember how the Lord brought them out of Egypt.

The reason the people were not to eat bread with yeast in it was to show that they had been forced to leave Egypt quickly. The people were also told to eat the Passover at the place where the tabernacle was set up, and not at their own homes. They were to eat the Passover at the time that the sun went down. The lamb that was used for the Passover was to be roasted over the fire. Then, it was to be eaten at the place where God showed the people to set up the tabernacle. Following the Passover, the people were to eat unleavened bread for six days. The seventh day was to be a special day that was set apart to worship the Lord.

25. Read Deuteronomy 16:1-12 and write what the people were not to do on this special day of worship.

26. Explain why all of the people were to gather together at the tabernacle each year to eat the Passover together.

27. Explain why you think that God wanted the people to eat unleavened bread for seven days each year right after the Passover.

The second feast that the people were to remember and celebrate was the Feast of Weeks. This feast was also called the Feast of Harvest. This feast was to be a time when the people brought a freewill offering to the Lord. The people were encouraged to give this offering according to the way that the Lord had blessed them. This feast was to be a time for great rejoicing. The people were to rejoice because the Lord had chosen to put His name among His people. This was also a time when the people were to remember that they had once been slaves in Egypt. This feast was seven weeks after the Passover and later came to be known as the Feast of Pentecost. Just as the people of Israel were to rejoice because the Lord had chosen to put His name among His people, we can also rejoice because of the fact that on the Day of Pentecost the Lord sent the Holy Spirit to live in the life of each Christian.

28. Read Deuteronomy 16:1-12 and write how many people were to gather at the tabernacle to celebrate the Feast of Weeks.

29. Explain what these verses teach about the way the people were to celebrate the Passover and the Feast of Weeks.

30. Explain why you are thankful that the Lord sent the Holy Spirit to live in your life when you placed your trust in Christ.

The third feast that the Jews were to celebrate each year was the Feast of Tabernacles. This was a feast that lasted seven days. This feast happened after the people had completed their harvest in the fall of the year. Because this feast happened after the end of the harvest, it was also a time of great rejoicing and thanksgiving. This was a feast that was to include all of the people, including those who had no families of their own. No one was to miss out on this feast. Today, as Christians, we also have much for which to be thankful. Our joy and thanksgiving should also be shared with all Christians including those who have no families.

31. Read Deuteronomy 16:13-22 and write what kind of a feast the Feast of Tabernacles is called.

32. Explain why the entire nation of Israel was to join together for a great time of rejoicing and thanksgiving after the end of the fall harvest.

33. Explain why you think that it is important for Christians today to have times that are set aside for rejoicing and thanksgiving.

The reason why the people were to have this feast was to show the Lord their thanks for what He had done for them. The Lord was the One that had caused their fields to produce a good harvest. The Lord also blessed the things that the people did with their hands. Because the Lord had done all of these things for the people of Israel, God said that all of the people should be filled with joy. If we will begin to think of all of the wonderful things that the Lord has done for us, we will also be filled with joy and thanksgiving.

34. Read Deuteronomy 16:13-22 and write how often all of the men were to gather together each year.

35. Explain why it was important for the people of Israel to have a time when they could look back and give thanks to the Lord for all that He had done for them.

36. Explain why your own heart is filled with joy and thanksgiving when you take time to think about all of the wonderful things that the Lord has done for you.

The Lord gave the people three feasts each year when the people would come together for a week. All of the men of Israel were to gather at the tabernacle for those three feasts. When the men gathered together, they were not to come with empty hands. Instead, all of the men were to come with an offering for the Lord. This offering was to be according to the ability of each man to give. It was to be related to the way that the Lord had blessed each man. Today, our desire should also be to give to the Lord according to the way that God has blessed us. This is one way that we can show our thanks.

37. Read Deuteronomy 16:13-22 and write what the people of Israel were to have at the gates of each city.

38. Explain why it was important for the entire nation to come together three times each year to give thanks to the Lord and to give an offering of thanks to the Lord.

39. Explain why you think that God wanted all of the men to gather together at the tabernacle three times each year.

God also told the people that they were to have judges at each city gate to judge the cases of the people. These judges were to judge each case with righteousness. They were not to take bribes from the rich or take advantage of the poor. They were not to try and twist the words of those who spoke. Instead, they were to judge every case fairly and justly. Then, they would enjoy the blessing in the land that God had promised to them. The people were also warned not to plant any groves where they might be tempted to worship idols.

40. Read Deuteronomy 16:13-22 and write what the people were told not to set up when they settled in the land.

41. Explain why the people of Israel were warned that they were not to favor the rich or take advantage of the poor in their judgment.

42. Explain why it is important to make certain that we treat all people fairly.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 15:1-16:22 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 9
Deuteronomy 17:1-19:21

God knew that the day would come when the people of Israel would decide that they wanted a king. God knew that they would do this so that they could be like the nations that were around them. Even though God knew that they would be rejecting Him when they wanted a king, the Lord did agree to let them have the king that He would choose. We will also learn in our study today about the One that is called the Great Prophet. This will teach us certain lessons about Christ. Since Christ is the Great Prophet, we will learn what the Lord taught the people of Israel about the differences between true prophets and false prophets.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what God said about those who worshiped idols.
- Explain what God said about evil spirits.
- Explain what you learn about the Great Prophet.
- Explain what you learn about the cities of refuge.

Our study today, begins with God reminding the people that they were not to offer any animals that had any spots or blemishes on them. Then, God went on to speak about those who worshiped idols. God said that when the people heard that a certain person was worshiping idols that the first thing that the people were to do was to make certain that the charge was true. The Lord said that there must be at least two witnesses in order to make certain that the charge was true. If it was true that the person had been worshiping idols, then, that person was to be stoned to death. The witnesses were to be the first ones to throw stones at the person that was guilty of idol worship. Here, we see that God wanted the people to clearly understand that idol worship would produce serious consequences in their lives.

1. Read Deuteronomy 17:1-20 and write what happened if there was only one witness to the fact that he saw the person worshiping idols.
2. Explain why God told the people of Israel that there must be at least two witnesses to convict any person.
3. Explain why you think the Lord wanted the people to clearly understand the severe consequences of worshiping idols.

One witness could not convict a person because that witness might tell a lie in order to get the other person killed. The Lord also told the people what they were to do when they could not make a decision because the decision was too difficult. The people were to go to the tabernacle and ask a priest or Levite to judge the case and make a decision. When the Lord showed the people what to do, the people were to do exactly as the Lord had said. The people were not to try and change the words of the judge in any way. If a person refused to do as the judge had said, that person was to be put to death. Such rebellion and evil was not to be allowed to remain in Israel.

4. Read Deuteronomy 17:1-20 and write what God said the people would do when they heard how the rebellion was judged.
5. Explain why the Lord developed a justice system that made provision for the settlement of even the hard cases.
6. Explain why you think that when the Lord showed the people what to do in hard cases, they were to do exactly what He said.

God said here, that a strict judgment would cause the people to do right because of fear even when they would not do right because of the law. The Lord also knew that the day would come

when the people would decide that they wanted a king. They would want a king so that they would be like the nations that were around them. Here, we have a reminder of the fact that many people want to be as much like the world as possible, instead of choosing to follow the Lord. God said that He would be the One that would choose their king. They were warned that they were not to choose any foreigner to be their king.

7. Read Deuteronomy 17:1-20 and write the first thing that God said that a king was not to multiply to himself.

8. Explain why the Lord knew that the day would come when the people of Israel would want a king so that they could be like the nations around them.

9. Explain why you think that many people still want to be closely conformed to the world instead of allowing the Lord to transform their lives.

God said that the king was not to try and get the people to return to Egypt. The Lord also warned the king not to try and get many horses, many wives or great riches. All three of these things would cause a king to turn away from the Lord. Instead, the king was to make a copy of the law so that he would know the Word of God. The king was to read a part of the Word of God every day. God said that this was the only way that a king would learn to fear Him. As a king studied the Word of God each day for his entire life, he would learn to depend on the Lord for strength instead of trying to lead the people of Israel in his own strength.

10. Read Deuteronomy 17:1-20 and write what the king was to do in addition to reading the Word of God.

11. Explain what God taught the people of Israel about what a king was to do when they demanded a king to lead them.

12. Explain why you think that the Lord said that every king was to write a personal copy of the Word of God and then read part of it every day.

The Levites were reminded of the fact that they would not have a separate inheritance. Instead, the Lord was to be their inheritance. God had said that the Levites were to spend their time serving the Lord and carrying out the work that He had for them. As a result, the people were to give them a tithe to supply their daily needs. We also read that part of the sacrifice was to be given to the priest for food for him and his family. The first of the crops and the first wool from a sheep was also to be given to the priests. In this way, God was going to provide for the needs of both the Levites and the priests.

13. Read Deuteronomy 18:1-14 and write what God told the people they were not supposed to learn, when they came into the land.

14. Explain why God told Israel exactly what they were to do to help supply the needs of the Levites and the priests.

15. Explain why you think it was important for the Levites and priests to be free to serve the Lord at all times.

The Lord knew how terrible the sins of the people that lived in the land of Canaan were. First, we read about the sacrifices of the people in the land. We read that the people of the land offered their own children as sacrifices. They caused their children to pass through the fire. We also learn how the people tried to find out about the future. Divination was using some object such as a crystal or a crystal ball to predict the future. An observer of times was one that studied horoscopes. An enchanter was one who claimed the power to cast out evil spirits.

16. Read Deuteronomy 18:1-14 and write the next kind of false prophet that is mentioned in this passage.

17. Explain why the many sinful practices that involved demonic activity was part of the reason why God said to completely destroy the people of Canaan.

18. Explain why you think that when people turn to idols, they often turn against their own children and even destroy them.

A witch was one that practiced evil arts such as casting evil spells through the power of evil spirits. Charmers were people who controlled poisonous snakes through demon power. A wizard was a male witch. A consulter of mediums and a necromancer were people who claimed that they had the power to talk to the spirits of the dead through the power of demons. Such people actually had one or more demons that had taken possession of their bodies. The people of Israel were not to get involved in any demonic activity. They were to serve the Lord only.

19. Read Deuteronomy 18:1-14 and write what God said Israel was to do instead of following any of these forms of evil.

20. Explain what God said about those who chose to practice evil through demonic power.

21. Explain why you think that people who turn to demons for power will eventually begin using that power to destroy others.

After warning the people of Israel about false prophets and others that depended on demonic power to do what they do, the Lord went on to talk about the one that is the True Prophet. Of course this is referring to Christ. Christ is the One that is the True Prophet. God said that the True Prophet would come from the nation of Israel. He was the One to whom the people of Israel should listen. God had told Moses about the One that would be the True Prophet when Moses had gone up on Mount Sinai to receive the law. God has said that this Prophet would speak to the people for God.

22. Read Deuteronomy 18:15-22 and write what God said that this future Prophet would speak.

23. Explain why it is important that God chose to tell Israel nearly 1500 years before His birth that a True Prophet would arise from the nation of Israel.

24. Explain why you are thankful that Christ is the True Prophet that both spoke for God and also gave His life for us.

God said that this True Prophet would speak all that God commanded Him. Christ said that He did not speak of His own initiative but spoke the words that the Father told Him to speak. As a result, the words of the Father and of Christ are in complete agreement. In fact, they are in complete agreement about everything, because they are One. God warned the people of Israel that the people who did not listen to the True Prophet would be judged. People cannot escape judgment if they fail to listen to Christ. Because Christ is the True Prophet, God wanted the people to know how to recognize false prophets so that they would not be deceived by them.

25. Read Deuteronomy 18:15-22 and write what God said would happen to any person that was a false prophet.

26. Explain why Christ made it clear that He did not speak of His own initiative but instead spoke the words that the Father told Him to speak.

27. Explain why you think that God told Israel nearly 1500 years in advance that the True Prophet would speak the words that God told Him to speak.

A false prophet was any person that claimed to speak for God, but spoke words that God had not commanded the person to speak. If a man even suggested to the people that they should follow other gods or claimed that another god had given him the power to speak, that person was a false prophet. Anyone that made a single prediction about the future that did not come true was a false prophet. Today, we have many people that are making predictions about the future. A few of these predictions come true but most do not. God says that if even one prophecy does not come true that the person is a false prophet. Israel was to put all false prophets to death so that they could not continue to lead others the wrong way.

28. Read Deuteronomy 18:15-22 and write what God told the people of Israel about a prophet that spoke something that did not come true.

29. Explain why God said that a person that made even one prediction that was not true was a false prophet.

30. Explain why you think that God told Israel that they were to put any false prophet to death.

In the book of Numbers, we learned that God chose three cities to be cities of refuge on the east side of the Jordan River. Now, the Lord gave the people instructions about choosing three cities to be cities of refuge in the land of Israel. The land was to be divided into three parts and each part was to have a city of refuge where a person could go for protection if he accidentally killed another person. The cities of refuge were only for those who killed another person by accident. They were not a place of protection for those who were murderers. A murderer was to be put to death for his sin.

31. Read Deuteronomy 19:1-21 and write what a man who killed another was not to have felt toward the one that he killed by accident.

32. Explain why God made it very clear that the cities of refuge were only for those who accidentally killed someone and that murderers were not protected.

33. Explain why you think that it is important for each person to understand the difference between accidental death and murder.

If a man had hate in his heart when he killed another person, the death was not an accident. That death was murder and the murderer was to be put to death. God gives us an example of an accidental death. If two men were working in the woods together and one had the head of his ax come off the handle, and hit the other man and killed him, that was considered an accident. The man that had been using the ax could flee to the city of refuge and be protected. The city of refuge was to be close enough so that no one would catch him and kill him before he reached the city of refuge.

34. Read Deuteronomy 19:1-21 and write how many more cities of refuge the people were to add if God increased the size of the land of Israel.

35. Explain why it was important for the Lord to give the people of Israel an illustration of what was meant by accidental death.

36. Explain why you think that God wanted the cities of refuge close enough to any area so that a person who killed accidentally could flee there.

God gave these cities so that the blood of innocent men would not be shed. However, they were not to protect the murderer. If one man killed another man because of hate, and then fled to the city of refuge, there was a trial for that man. If there were two witnesses that had seen the hate of the man that killed the other person, that murderer was condemned to death. He was taken out of the city of refuge so that the avenger of blood could kill him. The people were not to show any pity to the murderer. He must die.

37. Read Deuteronomy 19:1-21 and write what the people were not to remove.

38. Explain what these verses teach about the difference between accidental death and murder.

39. Explain why a person that was guilty of murder was to be tried and then put to death for the murder.

God also knew that it was possible that false witnesses would try to tell lies about another person in order to get that person killed. In order to prevent one person from telling lies about another person, God said that He would show who was telling the truth. If a man told lies in order to get another person put to death, the liar was to be put to death instead. The liar was to receive whatever judgment he was trying to get against the other person. God said that this was to be done so that the other people would hear and fear.

40. Read Deuteronomy 19:1-21 and write why God said that they should judge the liar in this way.

41. Explain why a person that gave false witness was to receive the punishment that he was trying to cause another person to receive.

42. Explain how this warning about false witnesses shows you that God considers it a very serious sin to be a false witness.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 17:1-19:21 and write down the three most important lessons that you

learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 10
Deuteronomy 20:1-21:23

God knew that the people of Israel would be fighting many other nations in the future of the nation of Israel. As a result, God gave Israel many instructions about what they were to do when they went to war with another city or nation. God told the people of Israel that there were certain men that should not go and fight. Instead, there were reasons why those men were not to fight at that time. Then, God told the people of Israel how they were to fight against other cities. In addition, God told the people of Israel what they were to do with the people that they captured.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why God said that certain people were not to go to war.
- Explain how God said that the people were to fight.
- Explain what was to be done when a man was found dead in a field.
- Explain what God said about a disobedient son.

The Lord knew that the people of Israel would be fighting against great and powerful enemies. These people would have horses and chariots. However, the people of Israel were not to be afraid of these enemies. Instead, the people were to remember how the Lord had brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt. Before the fight began, the priest was to speak to the armies of Israel. The priest was to encourage the people not to be afraid of their enemies. Instead, the priest was to remind the people that the Lord would fight for them. The Lord would fight against their enemies and so the people were to trust the Lord for victory.

1. Read Deuteronomy 20:1-9 and write who would go with the people as they went to fight against their enemies.
2. Explain why it was important for the priest to remind the people how the Lord had fought for them in the past before they faced the enemy.
3. Explain why you think that the army would be encouraged when they heard the priest tell what the Lord had done for them in the past.

The Lord said that there were several groups of people that were not to go with the army of Israel when Israel went to fight against another nation. A man that had built a new house but had not dedicated his house or moved into his house was not to go to war. His house was to be dedicated first before he went to war. A man that had planted a grape field and had not eaten any of the fruit from it yet was not to go and fight. He was to enjoy the fruit of his vineyard before he went to fight. Otherwise, that man might be killed in battle before he had eaten any of the grapes from that vineyard.

4. Read Deuteronomy 20:1-9 and write the third group of men that were not to go and fight against other nations.
5. Explain why a person that had built a new house or planted a new vineyard was not to go to war.
6. Explain why you think that God wanted the people to enjoy the blessings that the Lord had given them before they went to war.

God was the One that established the first marriage when He brought Adam and Eve together in the Garden of Eden. For this reason, God had always placed a very high value on marriage. God said that a man that was engaged was not to go and fight until he had married the woman. In Deuteronomy 24, we will learn that he was not to go and fight until he had been married for an entire year. God wanted a couple that was just getting married to have time to get their

home strongly established. As a result, God did not want anything to hinder the establishment of the home.

7. Read Deuteronomy 20:1-9 and write what the leaders were to allow the fearful and the fainthearted to do.

8. Explain why God said that a man that was engaged was not to go and fight until after he had married the woman.

9. Explain why you think that God wanted a new married couple to get their home established before the husband went to war.

The Lord only wanted men to go to battle that had their trust in Him. Those men that did not have their trust in the Lord for strength would be fearful. As a result, God said that those who were fearful and afraid were also to go home instead of going to the battle. Those who were in fear because they trusted their own strength might discourage the other soldiers so that even more soldiers became fearful. We can learn an important lesson from the fearful and the fainthearted. Today, God is looking for Christians that are depending on Him for strength. God knows that Christians that are depending on His strength will be able to fight against the powers of Satan. Those who are depending on their own strength will be controlled by fear.

10. Read Deuteronomy 20:1-9 and write what the people were to appoint to lead the people in battle.

11. Explain why the Lord said that all of the men that were fearful or afraid were to go home instead of going to the battle.

12. Explain why you think that the Lord wants Christians to learn to depend on Him for strength instead of depending on their own strength.

God also told the people of Israel that they were to give a city a choice when they went to fight against that city. Israel was to send messengers to the city and ask the leaders of the city if they would like to surrender. In this way, the enemies were always given a choice. If the city surrendered, the people of the city were to become the servants of the people of Israel. However, if the city refused to surrender, then the army of Israel was to come and fight against that city. The army was to surround the city and fight against the city until it was captured.

13. Read Deuteronomy 20:10-20 and write what the army of Israel was to do to the men of the city when God gave Israel victory.

14. Explain why God said that it was important to give the people of a city a choice to surrender or to fight and not just to go and fight against that city.

15. Explain why you think that God said that the men of those cities that surrendered were not to be killed but were to become servants instead.

All of the men of the city were to be killed if that city chose to fight against Israel. However, the people of Israel could take the women, the children, the cattle and the possessions of that city as a reward for themselves. Then, God went on to explain that the people were only to do this to cities that were far from them. They were not to do the same to the cities that were in their own land. God said that they were not to allow anyone to live in the cities in their own land. God said that the people in the land of Canaan were to be completely destroyed because of their sin. Israel was actually carrying out the judgment of God for their sin on those nations that lived in the land of Canaan.

16. Read Deuteronomy 20:10-20 and write why Israel was to destroy all of the people that lived in the land of Canaan.

17. Explain why God said that the people of Israel were only to give the choice to surrender or fight to those cities that were far from them.

18. Explain why you realize that the reason that God said to destroy the cities of Canaan was to judge the people of those cities for their sin.

God knew that the people of Israel would soon begin to follow the sinful practices of the people

of the land if any of the people of Canaan were allowed to live. When the people of Israel fought against a city, they were not to cut any of the fruit trees to use to build a tower from which to fight. The fruit trees help to keep people alive. For this reason they were only to use those trees that produced no fruit to build a tower. That way, there would be food for the people of Israel that moved into the area after Israel captured the city.

19. Read Deuteronomy 20:10-20 and write how long the people of Israel were to fight with those cities that chose to fight against them.

20. Explain what these verses teach about the way that Israel was to fight both against cities in Canaan and against cities that were further away from them.

21. Explain why you think the people of Israel were not to destroy any fruit trees when they fought against a city.

God knew that after the people reached the land of promise that there would be times when a person would be killed and no one would know who had killed the person. Since the people would not know who was guilty of the murder, they could not shed the blood of the murderer. For this reason, the closest city to the site of the murder was to offer a sacrifice to make atonement. The leaders of the people were to measure and find what city was the closest city to the place where the dead person was laying. Then, the men of the closest city were to bring a sacrifice.

22. Read Deuteronomy 21:1-9 and write what kind of an animal the people of that city were to bring as a sacrifice.

23. Explain why the Lord said that the leaders of the closest city were to offer a sacrifice as an atonement when a person was killed but no one knew who killed the person.

24. Explain why you think that the Lord said that any person who was killed was to have an atonement made if the guilty person could not be identified.

This heifer for the atonement was to be a heifer that had never done any work. The leaders of the city were to bring the heifer to a valley where no one had planted any crops. There, they were to cut off the head of the heifer. The priests were to come near and listen to the words of the elders as the elders followed the instructions of the Lord. The elders of the city that were close relatives of the dead man were to wash their hands over the dead body of the heifer. This was to show that they were not guilty and also to show that they did not know who was guilty of killing the dead person.

25. Read Deuteronomy 21:1-9 and write what these men were to say as they washed their hands.

26. Explain why the elders of the city that were close relatives were to testify that they had not killed the person and also that they did not know who had killed the person.

27. Explain why you think it was important for the leaders to testify that they had no knowledge of who had killed the person.

These men were to testify that they were innocent. Then, they were to ask God to show His love and mercy to the people of that city. They were to pray that God would not hold this sin against all of the people of Israel. God said that He would not condemn the people if the elders of the city would offer a sacrifice. Instead, God would forgive the people. The innocent blood would be removed from the people. This would be true because the people had done right in the sight of God. They had been obedient and offered the sacrifice that God required.

28. Read Deuteronomy 21:1-9 and write what God said that the people had done by being obedient to Him.

29. Explain why God said that the closest city was to offer a sacrifice when the murderer could not be found.

30. Explain why you think that God said that He would forgive the people when they were obedient to His Word.

We saw that the people of Israel were allowed to keep the women and children as servants when Israel won a victory over a foreign city. Because of the beauty of some of these foreign women, God knew that some of the men of Israel would decide to marry some of these foreign women. As a result, God told the men of Israel what to do before they married a foreign woman. She was to shave her hair and trim her nails and then have a time of mourning for her parents for a month. Then, the man could take the woman as his wife.

31. Read Deuteronomy 21:10-23 and write what the man was not allowed to do if he decided that he did not like the woman.

32. Explain why the men of Israel were to allow a foreign woman to have a time of mourning for her parents before a man of Israel married the woman.

33. Explain why you think that God wanted to make certain that the foreign women were treated with respect and concern was shown for their feelings.

If a man married a slave, he was required to give her freedom if he divorced her. He could not sell her to someone else. In this way, her rights were also protected. If a man had two wives, he was required to give the double portion to the son that was born first even if that son was not the son of his favorite wife. Even if the man had come to the point of hating the wife of the oldest son, that man was still to give the double portion to the oldest son. That was the right of the first-born. Nothing that happened could change that right.

34. Read Deuteronomy 21:10-23 and write what kind of a son is mentioned next.

35. Explain why a man that married a slave could not sell her to someone else but had to give the woman her freedom if he divorced her.

36. Explain why you think that a man could not show special favor to the oldest son of a favorite wife if the man had more than one wife.

If a son refused to listen to his parents even when the parents disciplined him, the parents were to take that son to the rulers that sat at the gate of the city. They were to tell these elders that their son was stubborn and rebellious. They were to tell how he refused to even listen to his parents. They were to say that he would not obey them. Then, the elders of the city were to take the young man outside of the city and stone him with stones. Here, we see that God wanted the children of the families of Israel to obey their parents. God required a very stiff punishment for any children that refused to obey their parents.

37. Read Deuteronomy 21:10-23 and write what other way in addition to stoning a person could be put to death for sin.

38. Explain why the rulers of a city were to judge a son that was totally rebellious toward his parents.

39. Explain why you think that God said that disobedient and rebellious sons should be stoned to death.

God said that all of the children in the land of Israel would hear what had happened. This would cause them to learn to fear and respect their parents if they heard that a disobedient son was put to death. Then, God went on to talk about a man that was put to death by hanging. When a man was killed by hanging, the body of that man was not to remain hanging from that tree during the night. Instead, that man was to be buried the same day that he was hung. God said that any person that was hung on a tree was accursed by God. This is why Christ was hung on a cross. He became a curse for us so that we might receive the righteousness of God through Him.

40. Read Deuteronomy 21:10-23 and write why God said that a body was not to hang on a tree during the night.

41. Explain why God said that any person that was hanged on a tree was accursed by God.

42. Explain why you think that Christ was willing to become a curse for us in order to pay for our sin.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 20:1-21:23 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 11
Deuteronomy 22:1-24:22

The first institution that God established, after He created Adam, was the institution of marriage. God performed the first marriage when He brought Eve to Adam and they became husband and wife. They established the first home. Because God feels that the home is so important, God gave many instructions to protect the home. We will be studying a number of these regulations today. We will learn what God said about a woman that was accused by her husband of being unfaithful before marriage. We will also learn what God told the people of Israel about divorce.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what God said about the way that we should show concern for other people and for animals.
- Explain what God said about a woman that was accused of being unfaithful.
- Explain what God said about uncleanness.
- Explain what God said about divorce.

God wanted the people of Israel to learn to respect the rights of others. As a result, God said that when a man found the animal of another person, he was to return the animal to the owner. If the owner lived a long way from the home of the man that found the animal, the finder was to keep the animal until the owner came for it. Then, he was to return the animal to the owner. Anything else that belonged to another person was also to be returned to the owner. If a person saw the animal of another person fall into a ditch, that person was to help the animal out of the ditch, so that the animal would not die in the ditch.

1. Read Deuteronomy 22:1-12 and write what a woman and a man were not to wear.
2. Explain why God said that a person was to care for an animal that he found and return it to the owner, or care for it until the owner came for it.
3. Explain why you think that the Lord has a concern for the animals, as well as a concern for people.

A woman was not to wear the clothing of a man. A man was not to wear the clothing of a woman. Today, we have many people who wear the clothing or at least the underclothing of people of the opposite sex. We see that such things were already happening at the time that Israel entered into the land of promise. However, we see that the Lord told the people of Israel that they were not to follow the practices of the other nations. We have seen many times that they were to be a holy people, set apart to the Lord. As a result, they were not to wear the clothing of the opposite sex. God said that when the people took the young, or the eggs of a bird, they were to let the bird go free. God also told the people to build a wall around the sides of their flat roofs, so that no one would fall off the roof. Otherwise, the people would bring blood on their houses.

4. Read Deuteronomy 22:1-12 and write what animals were not to plow together in the field.
5. Explain why God said that the people of Israel were not to wear the clothing of the opposite sex.
6. Explain why you think that God wanted the people of Israel to be different than the surrounding nations in many different ways.

The Lord also gave several instructions about separation. The people were not to plant different kinds of seed in the same field. They were not to use two different kinds of animals to work together. Such animals would not be able to work together as a team. The Lord also told the

people not to use different kinds of materials in the same piece of clothing. The people were told to make a blue fringe upon the edge of their clothes. This blue fringe was to show that the people of Israel were a separate people who had been set apart to serve God. By keeping the people of Israel as a separate people, God was keeping them as a separate people so that the promises given to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob about the One that would come from Israel could be fulfilled.

7. Read Deuteronomy 22:1-12 and write what God said sowing different seeds together would do to the fruit of a vineyard for Israel.

8. Explain why God wanted the people of Israel to be set apart as a separate nation and gave several distinct ways to keep them a separate people.

9. Explain why you think it was important for God to keep Israel as a separate people until Christ was born.

Sometimes, a man would marry a woman and later accuse her of not being a virgin when he had married her. Such an accusation would bring an evil name on the woman, even if the woman was innocent. In order to protect the woman if she was innocent, the parents could bring the proof to the elders that their daughter was a virgin when she married the man. Then, the elders were to take the man and beat him for trying to destroy the good name of his wife. Such a man was not allowed to divorce his wife as long as he lived. However, if the wife was guilty, then the wife was to be stoned to death so that sin would not continue to remain in the land.

10. Read Deuteronomy 22:13-30 and write why God said that such a woman was to be stoned to death.

11. Explain why God gave instructions to protect the women of Israel so that their husbands did not accuse them falsely.

12. Explain why you think that a man was not allowed to divorce his wife if he had accused her falsely.

God did not want the sinful practices of the Canaanites to be allowed to continue in the land when Israel received the land. Otherwise, the people of Israel would be encouraged to join in the sins of the nations. God said that if a man was caught having a sexual relationship with a married woman, then both of them were to be put to death. If a girl that was engaged had a man come and have sexual relationships with her while she was in a city, both the man and the woman were to be stoned to death. She was to be stoned because she had not called for help. He was to be stoned because he had sexual relationships with a woman that was promised to another man. God said many times that there are to be no sexual relationships outside of marriage.

13. Read Deuteronomy 22:13-30 and write who was to die if the man forced the woman in an open field.

14. Explain why a man and woman were both to be stoned if they were caught committing adultery in a city.

15. Explain why you think that God said that a man was to be stoned if he had sexual relationships with a woman that was promised to another man.

The man was to be put to death because he was guilty of rape. The woman was not to be put to death because there was no one to help her out in an open field. If a man had a sexual relationship with a virgin, he was required to pay fifty shekels to the father of the girl. Then, the girl became his wife. Because of the sin of the man, he could never divorce the girl in the future. The men were also warned that they were not to marry the wife of their father. Here, we see that God gave the people of Israel a number of instructions about sexual relationships.

16. Read Deuteronomy 22:13-30 and write why a man could not divorce a virgin with whom the man had sexual relationships.

17. Explain what these verses teach you about the fact that God considers sexual sin a very serious sin.

18. Explain why you think that God said that a man that had sexual relationships with a woman before he married her was never allowed to divorce her.

God spoke of several people that were not to be a part of the nation of Israel in its worship. First, God said that a man who did not have his sexual organs was not to join Israel in its worship. Then, God said a bastard was not to be included in their worship. A bastard was a man that was born because of sexual relationships between a parent and a child or a brother and a sister. Such sin is also called incest. God also said that the people of Moab and Ammon were not to have any part in the worship of Israel because of their sin. Edom and Egypt had shown kindness to Israel in the past, and so God said that they could worship with Israel, beginning with the third generation of the people of those nations.

19. Read Deuteronomy 23:1-25 and write what the people were to keep away from when they fought their enemies.

20. Explain why God said that Moab and Ammon were not to be included in the worship of Israel.

21. Explain why you think that God chose to allow the people of Edom and Egypt to join in the worship of Israel after the third generation.

When the men of Israel went out to fight against another nation, they were to remember that they were the people of God. They were to avoid all evil temptations that might come to them as they were on the battlefield. While they were on the battlefield, they were to obey the same laws about cleansing that they obeyed when they were at home. A man that was unclean was to stay outside of the camp until evening. Then, he could come into the camp after he had washed himself. The people were also to use a shovel to cover the wastes that came from their bodies.

22. Read Deuteronomy 23:1-25 and write who walked in the middle of the camp of Israel.

23. Explain why God gave the people of Israel instructions about cleansing even when they were at war.

24. Explain why you think that God said that the people were to avoid any temptation to sin that might come on the battlefield.

The people of Israel were to keep the Lord in the center of their lives at all times, just as we should do today. A servant that escaped from a master in another country was to be allowed to live in the land of Israel. He was not to be returned to his master. The people of Israel were not to allow their daughters or their sons to become religious prostitutes. The money that had been paid to a harlot or a sodomite was never to be brought to the tabernacle. Such money was evil in the sight of God. God also said that the people of Israel were not to charge interest to the other men of Israel. They could only collect interest from a foreigner.

25. Read Deuteronomy 23:1-25 and write what the people were to do when they vowed a vow to God.

26. Explain why God said that it was important for the people of Israel to keep the Lord in the center of their lives at all times.

27. Explain why you think that God said that the money that was paid to a prostitute or a sodomite was never to be brought to the tabernacle.

God wanted His people to keep their word. If the people made a promise to God, they were to keep that promise, or it would be a sin in the sight of God. God said that it was better not to make a vow than to make a vow and break it. If the people promised to give a certain offering to the Lord, they were to make sure that they gave that offering to the Lord. The people were also allowed to eat fruit from the fields of their neighbors as they walked through the fields. However, they were not allowed to take any fruit, other than what they ate as they walked through the fields.

28. Read Deuteronomy 23:1-25 and write what God said it would be if people failed to keep their vows to God.

29. Explain what these verses teach about the importance of people keeping their promises to the Lord.
30. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to always keep any promises that you make.

Because of the hardness of the hearts of the people, God did allow a man to divorce his wife. However, this was only allowed if he found some uncleanness in her. If a man did divorce his wife, he was to give his wife a letter of divorce. Then, she was free to go and marry another man. Once a woman married another man, God said that she was never allowed to marry the first husband again, even if her second husband died or divorced her. God said that such a marriage would cause the land to be filled with sin and God wanted His people to be a holy people.

31. Read Deuteronomy 24:1-22 and write how long a man was to wait after he married a wife before he went to war.
32. Explain what these verses teach about divorce.
33. Explain why you think that God did not allow a woman to be remarried to her first husband if she had married another husband and the second husband had died.

God wanted a man and his new wife to have a year together before this togetherness was interrupted by war or business. This was to allow time for their love and understanding of each other to grow. The men of Israel were not to charge interest, but they could keep something as a pledge that the person would repay. However, they were not to keep as a pledge anything that a man needed to earn a living such as a millstone. A man that stole other people and sold them as slaves was to be put to death. The people were also warned to follow all of the instructions about leprosy. Otherwise, the disease might spread from that person to many other people.

34. Read Deuteronomy 24:1-22 and write who the people were to remember to remind them about the danger of leprosy.
35. Explain why God made it clear that a newly married couple was to have time for their love and understanding to grow before the husband went to war.
36. Explain why you think that it is important for newly married couples today to have time to develop their love for each other and grow in their understanding of one another.

God also gave several instructions to protect the poor. A man was to wait outside a house to receive a pledge. He was not to go into the house and get the pledge for himself. The pledge of a poor man was to be returned before evening. The people were also warned not to be cruel to a servant. A servant was to receive his wages when he requested them, because he was poor and needed the money for food. God also said that a father was not to die for the sins of his children. In the same way, a child was not to die for the sins of his father. Every person was to be responsible for his own sins.

37. Read Deuteronomy 24:1-22 and write what the people were to do when they cut their grain and forgot a sheaf of grain in the field.
38. Explain why the people of Israel were taught that it was important to have a great concern for the poor and needy.
39. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to have a concern for the poor and the needy.

God also provided for those families where the husband had died. No one was to take advantage of the wife or the children. The Lord said that He would punish any people who took advantage of the needy, just as He had punished Egypt for taking advantage of Israel. When the people harvested their fields, they were to allow some to remain in the fields for the needy. They were also to leave any olives on the tree that they did not get the first time so that the poor could gather these olives. They were also instructed to leave a few grapes in their vineyards.

40. Read Deuteronomy 24:1-22 and write who was to receive the things that were left in the

fields, on the trees or in the vineyards.

41. Explain why God showed that He had a great concern for the fatherless and the widows.

42. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to help and encourage the widows and the children whose fathers have died.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 22:1-24:22 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters today.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 12
Deuteronomy 25:1-27:26

The Lord wanted His people to serve and obey Him. As a result, God told the people that there were certain things that would bring a blessing to them. There were other things that would bring a curse to the people. Here, we see that the Lord wanted the people to realize that they had a choice. They could choose to do the things that would result in blessing, or, they could choose to do the things that would bring a curse. Today, we will be learning about the things that would bring a curse on the people. The people were warned about those things so they would know how to live the way that God wanted them to live. If they chose to rebel, they would bring a curse on themselves.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why God said that every family was to be continued.
- Explain about the offering of the firstfruits.
- Explain what God said about building an altar.
- Explain what things God said would bring a curse.

When two men had a disagreement, they were to bring their case to the judges to be tried. Then, the judges were to determine which man was innocent and which man was guilty. If the judges decided that the man had done something that was evil enough to deserve a beating, they were to cause the man to lie down. Then, they were to beat him according to the evil that he had done. However, they were not to give him more than forty stripes. Otherwise, he would lose respect for the judges and they would consider him completely evil. The people were also told to allow an ox to eat while it worked in the fields.

1. Read Deuteronomy 25:1-19 and write who was to marry a woman whose husband had died before they had any children.
2. Explain why the Lord said that people were to ask the judges to determine who was innocent and who was guilty when there was a disagreement.
3. Explain why you think that the Lord said that they were not to give a guilty person more than forty stripes.

The brother of a man who died was to marry the wife of his brother so that the family would be continued on as a family in the nation of Israel. The first child was to be named after the brother that had died. Then, that child carried on the name of the brother. If a man refused to marry the wife of a dead brother, she was to go and tell the elders of the city. Then, the elders were to call the brother and ask him if what the woman was saying was true. If the man still refused to marry the wife of his brother, she was to take off his shoe and spit in his face. This was a testimony of the fact that he would not take his responsibility to raise up children for his brother.

4. Read Deuteronomy 25:1-19 and write what name was to be given to such a man.
5. Explain what these verses teach about the importance of carrying on the name of a brother.
6. Explain why you think that God wanted men to take the responsibility to raise up children for a brother that had died.

If two men were fighting together, the wife of one man was not to try and stop the fight by grabbing the sexual organs of the other man. God said that such a thing was very evil and the woman was to have her hand cut off. God also warned the people that they were not to have two separate sets of weights. Instead, they were to use the same weights for both buying and selling. This way the people would be honest in all of their trading. God promised the people

that they would have a long life if they were honest in their dealings with other people.

7. Read Deuteronomy 25:1-19 and write what the people of Israel were told to remember about Amalek.

8. Explain why God said that the people of Israel were to use the same weights both when they were buying and when they were selling.

9. Explain why you think that God promised the people that the reward for honesty would be long life.

The army of Amalek had come around behind the people of Israel as they were traveling through the wilderness. Then, the army of Amalek began to fight against the weak and the feeble that were at the back of the line of march. The army of Amalek did this because they did not fear and respect God. As a result, God said that the nation of Amalek must be judged. God said that He would use Israel to judge Amalek after God had given Israel rest from the rest of its enemies. God said that Israel was to completely destroy the people of Amalek so that there would not be a single person left from that nation.

10. Read Deuteronomy 25:1-19 and write what God said should be done to the name of Amalek.

11. Explain why God said that the nation of Amalek must be judged for attacking the weak and the feeble.

12. Explain some of the ways that you can show the concern of the Lord for the weak and the feeble.

God told the people that when they came into the land, they were to bring the first fruits of the land to the place where the tabernacle of Israel was to be set up. Then, they were to tell how the Lord had given them these first fruits. This was actually a short review of the history of the nation of Israel, beginning with the time when Jacob left the land of Canaan and went down into the land of Egypt. This review included a review of how God had brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt and into a land flowing with milk and honey. They were to review this history as they brought their first fruits to the Lord and came to worship the Lord.

13. Read Deuteronomy 26:1-19 and write what was to cause these people to rejoice as they brought their first fruits.

14. Explain why the people were to review how the Lord had worked in the history of Israel when they brought their first fruits to the Lord

15. Explain why you think that it is important for all people to remember how the Lord has worked in the past.

The Lord also told the people what they were to say about their tithes. First, the people were to give their tithes to the Levites, the strangers, the fatherless, and the widows. Then, they were to tell the Lord what they had given. It is important to notice that the people were to tell the Lord what they had given to Him and not to tell what they had given to other people. People like to boast to other people about the things that they have done. However, we are not to boast to people but rather to thank the Lord for what He has done and ask Him to bless them. Here, we see that the Lord will bless us if we are obedient and do not boast about what we have done.

16. Read Deuteronomy 26:1-19 and write how the people were to keep and do the commandments of the Lord.

17. Explain why the people were instructed to tell the Lord what they had given to Him instead of telling other people.

18. Explain why it is important in your own life to have a humble attitude and not boast about the things that you have done.

The people of Israel were instructed to keep and do the commandments of the Lord from the bottom of their hearts and souls. This meant that obedience to the Lord was to come from their inner person because it was a decision and attitude of the heart. The Lord told His people that

He would make them greater than any other nation if they would do these things. They would also be a holy people unto the Lord. Today, the desire of the Lord is the same for us as it was for the people of Israel. First, the Lord wants us to know what He says. Then, God wants us to do and obey what He says. When we do what the Lord says, we should do it with love from the bottom of our hearts.

19. Read Deuteronomy 26:1-19 and write what the Lord promised to make the nation of Israel
20. Explain why it is important to keep and do the commandments of the Lord with all our heart and soul.
21. Explain why it is important for you in your own life to do what you do for the Lord because of the love that He has shown to you.

In order to help the people of Israel remember and obey the commandments of God, the Lord told the people what they were to do when they had crossed the Jordan River. The people were to gather great stones and plaster them with plaster. Then, they were to write all of the words of the law on these plastered stones. These stones were to be in a place where all of the people could see them. In this way, the people would be continually reminded of the Word of God. Every time the people passed that place, they would be able to read the Word of God.

22. Read Deuteronomy 27:1-8 and write where the people were to set up these stones so that the people would see them.
23. Explain why the people of Israel were to write the law in a place where it would be seen by all of the people.
24. Explain why you think that the Lord wanted the people to be able to regularly read the law that He had given to them.

Mount Ebal was near the center of the land that God had promised to the people of Israel. It was also an excellent meeting place. There was a small valley between Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim. By gathering on the sides of these two mountains, all of the people of Israel could hear one person speak. This meant that this was the perfect gathering place when the entire nation of Israel gathered together. As a result, this was the place where they were to plaster the stones and write the law of God on them. They were also to build an altar of stones in order to offer sacrifices to the Lord.

25. Read Deuteronomy 27:1-8 and write what the people were not to lift up on the stones of this altar.
26. Explain why the Lord said that the people were to make Mount Ebal the place where the whole nation would gather together.
27. Explain why you think that the Lord wanted a place where the people of Israel could gather together to hear the Word of God and offer sacrifices to Him.

God said that the people were not to use iron tools to make these rocks smooth and beautiful. God knew the hearts of the people. God knew that the people would begin to worship their own efforts. Instead, the people were to build the altar with the stones just as they were. Then, God said that the people were to write the law very plainly on the pieces of stone that they had plastered. God wanted to make certain that the law was written clearly and plainly so that none of the people would have any excuse for not knowing the law.

28. Read Deuteronomy 27:1-8 and write what the people were to offer on this altar that they built.
29. Explain why it is still very important for us to explain the Word of God very clearly and plainly.
30. Explain why you think that God said that the people were to use natural rocks for the altar and not make a beautifully engraved altar as a place to offer sacrifices.

The Lord said that the people of Israel would certainly enjoy His blessing if they obeyed Him. However, the Lord also gave them a warning. God said that they would receive certain curses

if they failed to obey Him. In order to impress these curses on the minds of the people, God told the people what they were to do when they entered into the land. Half of the tribes were to gather on the side of Mount Ebal. The other tribes were to gather on the side of Mount Gerizim. Then, the Levites were to read all of these curses to the people.

31. Read Deuteronomy 27:9-26 and write what the people were to say as the priest completed the reading of each curse.

32. Explain why God said that the people were to gather with six tribes on Mount Ebal and six tribes on Mount Gerizim so that all the people could hear the blessings and the curses.

33. Explain why you think it is important for everyone to realize that they have choices and that the choices they make will bring either blessings or curses.

The first curse covers those who chose to turn away from the Lord to serve other gods. God said that any person that carved a wooden idol or made a metal idol was cursed. This was true even if the person tried to hide the idol in a secret place where no one could see it. Although people might not be able to see the idol, God would see the idol and would bring judgment on the person that had made the idol. This is a reminder of the fact that we cannot hide our sins from the Lord. He sees all things. In addition, the Lord also knows the thoughts of our hearts.

34. Read Deuteronomy 27:9-26 and write the second thing that God told the people of Israel would bring a curse.

35. Explain why God chose to remind the people that the very first thing that would bring a curse was to turn from God to idols.

36. Explain why you think that God said that He would judge the person who made an idol even if the person hid the idol so that no one else could see it.

We see that the second thing that God said would bring a curse would be for a person to dishonor a father or a mother. God made it clear that He placed great value on the importance of respect for the parents. Today, respect for parents is a subject that needs to be emphasized as strongly as it was emphasized to the nation of Israel. God also promised to curse those who moved the landmark that marked the corner of the property of their neighbor. This was the way that men tried to steal property from their neighbor so that they could get more property for themselves. God also promised a curse to those who would cause a blind man to go the wrong way. Then, God promised a curse to those who would try to take advantage of the stranger, the fatherless, or the widow.

37. Read Deuteronomy 27:9-26 and write what the people were to say after each curse was given.

38. Explain what these verses teach that God said would bring a curse to the people of Israel if they failed to respect their parents.

39. Explain why you think that respect for parents is a very important lesson to teach children as they grow.

God also gave a curse to those who would choose to commit various kinds of immorality. This included immorality with a mother, an animal, a sister, or a mother-in-law. God places a very high value on the holiness of sexual relationships. Today, people have strayed a long way from the standard of God. These verses speak of immorality in the family. However, these curses also applied to all forms of immorality. God also gave a curse to all those who committed murder or took a bribe to kill an innocent person. These curses made it clear that God would bring judgment on all those who chose to rebel against the commandments that the Lord had given to Israel.

40. Read Deuteronomy 27:9-26 and write down the final curse that the Lord gave to the people of Israel

41. Explain why God warned the people of Israel that any kind of immorality would bring a curse.

42. Explain why you think that God places a very high value on the holiness of sexual

relationships.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 25:1-27:26 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 13
Deuteronomy 28:1-29:29

In our last lesson, we learned about several things that God said would bring a curse on the nation of Israel. Today, we will begin our lesson by studying some of the things that God said would bring a blessing. Then, we will learn about some additional things that God said would bring a curse to the nation of Israel. God knew that the people of Israel would turn away from Him and begin to do the things that God had warned them not to do. As a result, God also told the people of Israel what would be the final results of continuing rebellion. The things that the Lord mentioned in these chapters are still having a great impact on the people of Israel today.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain the promises about blessing.
- Explain what God warned the people about judgment.
- Explain how God promised to judge continued rebellion.
- Explain what God said about obedience and disobedience.

The Lord had given the people of Israel a choice many times. Here, we see that God offered the people of Israel a choice again. That choice was to serve God and enjoy His blessings, or reject God and receive His curses instead. God promised that there would be many forms of blessing for obedience. The first blessing was a promise that Israel would be above all the other nations of the earth. God said that they would have blessings in their cities, in their fields, among their children, in their flocks, and in their supply of food. They would see these blessings as they came in and as they went out. In fact, there would be blessings everywhere that the people went.

1. Read Deuteronomy 28:1-20 and write what the Lord promised to do to the enemies that rose up against the nation of Israel.
2. Explain why God chose to remind the people of Israel many times that they could make choices, and those choices would either bring blessings or curses.
3. Explain why you think that it is important to help others understand that they can make choices and that the choices they make will either bring good or evil consequences.

God promised that His blessings would include victory for Israel over their enemies. In fact, the blessings of the Lord would include everything that affected the people of Israel. God said that this blessing would happen as the people were obedient to the commandments of the Lord. People everywhere would recognize that the people of Israel served the Lord and that they were being blessed by the Lord. The nation of Israel would become a rich and powerful nation. They would receive rain to water their crops. All of these things could be enjoyed by Israel as long as they served the Lord. That is why the Lord encouraged the people not to make the choice to turn away from the words that the Lord had commanded them.

4. Read Deuteronomy 28:1-20 and write what God said that the people were not to go after if they wanted the blessing of the Lord.
5. Explain why the Lord wanted Israel to understand that His desire was to bless them and that He would bless them as long as they made wise choices.
6. Explain why you think that many people just tell others what they have to do instead of following the example of God and giving choices and explaining consequences.

God gave the people of Israel a choice. If they chose to serve the Lord, God said that the people would enjoy great blessings. However, if they chose to follow other gods, they would bring great curses upon themselves. They would be cursed in each of the areas where God had

said that they would enjoy a blessing. They would be cursed when they came in and when they went out. The Lord would send these curses as judgment for rebellion. Most of the people would die because of the various curses that would come on the people. Few of the people would remain.

7. Read Deuteronomy 28:1-20 and write what God said would come on the people in whatever they tried to do if they made the choice to reject the Lord.

8. Explain what these verses teach that God said would be the cause of this blessing and cursing.

9. Explain why you think that it is important for people to realize that they bring judgment on themselves when they choose to do evil.

God went on to tell the people of Israel how He would bring these curses on the people. God said that He would cause various diseases to come on the people. These diseases would bring sickness and death. Then, God said that He would stop the rain so that the land would become very dry and hard. The dust would also be blown by the wind. The people would fall before their enemies and would run in all directions in order to try and escape from their enemies. When they fell before their enemies, the birds and the wild animals would eat their bodies. The Lord also promised that the people would have boils, tumors, the scab and the itch.

10. Read Deuteronomy 28:21-48 and write how long God said that these things would last for the people.

11. Explain why God warned the people of Israel that the consequences of choosing evil included diseases, drought and death in addition to boils, tumors, the scab and the itch.

12. Explain why you think that God allows certain diseases as a direct result of choosing to break the law of God.

There would be no cure for those diseases that were caused by sin. God said that some of the people would also become insane or blind. They would not even be able to see in the middle of the day. They would take a wife but another man would lay with her. They would build a house and another man would live in it. Others would eat their crops. Their animals would also be killed. Their sons and their daughters would become the slaves of the people of other nations. Everything that the people had prepared would be enjoyed by the people of other nations.

13. Read Deuteronomy 28:21-48 and write how the people would feel about the things that they saw happen.

14. Explain why God said that one of the consequences of sin was that the things that Israel prepared for themselves would be enjoyed by the people of other nations.

15. Explain why you think that it is important to help people realize that they will be forced to live with the consequences of their choices.

The people would become completely upset by the things that they would see happening to them. God also promised that they would be covered from head to foot with boils. The Lord would take them out of the land of promise and bring them to another land where they would serve idols. In fact, the other nations would even talk about the terrible things that would happen to the nation of Israel. The people would plant seeds in their fields but their crops would be eaten by the locusts. Their vineyards would also be destroyed by the worms.

16. Read Deuteronomy 28:21-48 and write what God said would happen to the olive trees of the people.

17. Explain why God said that the judgment for sin on Israel would be so severe that even the other nations would talk about that judgment.

18. Explain why you think that God said that one of the consequences of sin would be that the people would be taken out of their own land.

The fruit of the olive trees would fall off the trees before the olives became ripe. The parents

would have children but the children would be taken as slaves to foreign countries. The locusts would eat all of the trees of the land. Strangers would rule the land. All these curses would come on the people because they refused to obey the commandments of the Lord. God warned them that this would be a choice with very serious consequences. Because the people refused to serve the Lord with joy and gladness, they would serve their enemies with sorrow and sadness. They would have a yoke of iron around their necks.

19. Read Deuteronomy 28:21-48 and write who God said would become the head when Israel became the tail.

20. Explain the results of these curses that God said He would bring on the people if they chose to rebel against Him.

21. Explain why you think that one consequence of sin is that people experience sorrow and sadness instead of joy and gladness.

In addition to all of these curses, God also said that He would bring a nation from a far country against Israel. This nation would be a very cruel nation that would not show any kindness to either the young or the old. They would eat the cattle and the crops of the people of Israel. Then, they would surround the cities and fight against the cities until they destroyed the walls that protected those cities. While their cities were surrounded, the people would become very hungry. They would be forced to eat anything that they could find to eat.

22. Read Deuteronomy 28:49-67 and write what God said the people would eat when they became very hungry.

23. Explain why God said that He would bring a nation from a far country to judge Israel if they continued in rebellion.

24. Explain why you think it is important for all people to realize that God is a holy God and must judge sin.

God said that the people would become so hungry that they would even eat their own children. This would be true of both the men and the women. They would even trick their own families so that they could kill them and eat them. In addition to war and starvation, God also said that He would bring great plagues on the people if they did not follow Him. The diseases of Egypt that had filled the people with fear would also come on them. God would bring all of these plagues and sicknesses on the people of Israel because of their sin and rebellion.

25. Read Deuteronomy 28:49-67 and write how many people would be left after God had brought these judgments on the nation of Israel.

26. Explain why God warned that continued rebellion would bring hunger and starvation as well as disease.

27. Explain what you learn from the fact that God said that the people would even eat their own children in their hunger.

The nation that had once been a great nation would become a small group of people. Then, God said that the small group that remained would be scattered among the nations. They would be in nations from one end of the earth to the other. They would have no peace among these other nations. Instead, they would be filled with fear and be afraid that they might be killed at any moment. They would be afraid during the day and also be afraid during the night. They would live in such fear and doubt that they would wonder if they would even survive.

28. Read Deuteronomy 28:49-67 and write what the people would say in the morning because of their fear.

29. Explain why God said that the continued judgment of Israel would include the scattering of the people from one end of the earth to the other.

30. Explain why you think that God chose as one of His judgments to scatter the people of Israel throughout the world.

Moses also reminded the people of the things that the Lord had done for the people of Israel

when He had brought the people out of Egypt. Even though the people had seen and heard what the Lord had done for Israel, the people still did not understand that they could depend on the Lord for all things. The people even knew how the Lord had cared for them for forty years in the wilderness. They had seen how their clothes had not become old. The Lord had supplied the people with food to eat and water to drink. The Lord had given Israel victory over its enemies.

31. Read Deuteronomy 29:1-29 and write what God had said would happen to Israel if the people would keep and do what the Lord had commanded them to do.

32. Explain why people often fail to understand that they can depend on the Lord for all things even though they have seen what He has done in the past.

33. Explain why you find it important in your own life to remember what the Lord has done in the past and ask Him to give you greater understanding.

The Lord promised that the people would prosper in everything that they did, if they would obey His commandments. All of the people would be able to enjoy this blessing from the most important leader, to the servant that cut the wood. God had chosen the people of Israel long before and had made wonderful promises to their fathers. God had made His covenant with all of the people of Israel, including those who were not present that day. God had told the people that He would establish them as a people for Himself. The Lord had said that He would be their God and would keep His promises that He had made to Abraham.

34. Read Deuteronomy 29:1-29 and write what the people had seen in Egypt and the other nations through which they had passed.

35. Explain why the Lord reminded the people several times that He would bless them if they would be obedient to Him.

36. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to choose to be obedient to the Lord.

The people of Israel had seen the terrible idol worship of the nations through which they had passed. Now, the Lord warned the people that all of the curses in the book of the law would come on the people if they followed the evil ways of the nations through which they had passed. If any person followed these evil ways, God would destroy him. The judgment would be so great if the people turned away from God that the people of the surrounding nations would talk about the terrible judgment of Israel. God wanted the people to realize that they could choose either the blessings or the cursing.

37. Read Deuteronomy 29:1-29 and write what the nation of Israel would become like if they chose to live in rebellion against the Lord.

38. Explain why God warned each individual that if that individual followed the evil ways of the nations that God would destroy that person.

39. Explain why you think that the book of Deuteronomy speaks about the results of disobedience so many times.

God told the nation of Israel that the whole land would become like Sodom and Gomorrah if the people continued to live in rebellion. People from other nations would realize that these things had happened to Israel because the people had turned away from the Lord. They had happened because the people had chosen to serve other gods. As a result, these people would realize that the Lord had shown His anger against the sin of Israel. This was the reason why the Lord later took the people out of the land of Israel to another land.

40. Read Deuteronomy 29:1-29 and write to whom the secret things belong.

41. Explain why God warned the people of Israel about the judgment that they would face if they turned away from the Lord and continued to live in rebellion.

42. Explain why you think that God said that the secret things belong to Him and that the things that He reveals belong to us.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 28:1-29:29 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 14
Deuteronomy 30:1-31:30

In our last lesson, we saw that God said that He would scatter the nation of Israel among the nations of the world if they chose to rebel against the Lord and then continued to live in rebellion against Him. However, God promised that He would never forget His people even if they did rebel. Today, we will learn that the Lord promised to return the people back to their own land when the people repented and returned to Him. This meant that the people of Israel were actually faced with a great choice. It was their decision to choose whether they wanted life or death.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what God said the people must do in order to return to the land.
- Explain the choice that faced the people of Israel.
- Explain the last words of Moses to the people.
- Tell about the warning that the Lord gave to Moses about the people.

Today, we will be studying the section of Deuteronomy that is known by many as the Palestinian Covenant. This section actually began in our last lesson where we learned that God would scatter the people among the nations, if they chose to be disobedient. God begins this chapter by telling the people what they must choose to do in order to again enjoy the blessings of the Lord, after they had been scattered among the nations. The people were told that they would be able to return to the land when they returned to the Lord and began obeying His voice again. God said that would happen when they began serving the Lord again with their whole heart and soul.

1. Read Deuteronomy 30:1-10 and write what the Lord promised to do as soon as the people began serving Him with their whole heart and soul.
2. Explain why these verses show us that the Lord will never forget the people of the nation of Israel.
3. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that the Lord will never break His promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

This promise made by God is a covenant of God with the people of Israel. God promised to show great love and kindness to the people as soon as they returned to Him. God promised to gather the people from all of the nations where they were scattered. God said that even if a few of the people were scattered to the ends of the heavens, He would even gather the people from there and bring them back into their own land. God also promised to bless His people when He brought them back into their own land. At that time, the people will be multiplied and become greater than they have ever been in the past.

4. Read Deuteronomy 30:1-10 and write what the Lord promised to do to the hearts of the people at that time.
5. Explain why this is a great promise to the people of Israel to know that God has promised to regather them from the ends of the earth and the ends of the heavens.
6. Explain why the fact that the Jews have begun to return to the land of Israel over the past two generations helps you to understand how God keeps His promises.

The Lord promised that He will change the hearts of the people, when He regathers them from all of the nations where they have been scattered. At that time, all of the people of Israel will turn to the Lord and will love Him. This has not yet happened. It is an event that is still in the future. At that time, the desire of all of the people of Israel will be to serve the Lord. The Lord

will also judge all of the nations that have persecuted Israel. At that time, the people will return to the Lord and begin to obey His voice. They will become obedient to all of His commandments.

7. Read Deuteronomy 30:1-10 and write what the Lord promised that He will make Israel at that time.

8. Explain why the Lord says that there will come a time when all of the people of Israel will turn to the Lord and obey His commandments.

9. Explain why you think that the Lord is the One that changes the hearts of people and gives them a desire to obey and serve Him.

God promised the people that everything they did would be blessed, if they would return to Him. God said that when the people returned to the Lord, He would bring them back into their own land. God promised that at that time He will multiply and bless their children. God also promised that He will multiply their cattle and their crops. In fact, the Lord will be filled with joy because He can bring these blessings on the people because of their obedience to Him. God promised that all of these things will happen when the people begin to serve Him with their whole heart and soul. Here, we see that God will never forget His past promises to Israel.

10. Read Deuteronomy 30:1-10 and write what God said that He will do when that time comes.

11. Explain what these verses teach about the fact that God has promised that there is still future blessing for Israel.

12. Explain why you think that the Lord said that He will be filled with joy when He can bring all of these blessings on the people of Israel.

Moses told the people of Israel that the commandments of the Lord were not hidden from them. Those commandments are not hidden in heaven where no one can reach them. They are not even across an ocean where they might be difficult for them to reach. Instead, we see that the Word of God is very close to the people of Israel. In fact, God said that His Word should be in their mouth and in their heart. If the Word of God was in their mouth, then they would be speaking it. If it was in their heart, then they would be obeying that Word. Here, we see some key principles for our own lives. We also need to choose to speak the Word of God. We also need to choose to obey the Word of God from our hearts.

13. Read Deuteronomy 30:11-20 and write what God said that He had set before the people.

14. Explain why God told Israel that the Word of God was very close to them and that He wanted it to be in their hearts and their mouths.

15. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to have the Word of God in your heart and in your mouth.

God had given the people of Israel His commandments. Now, the people of Israel were faced with a choice. They could obey and keep those commandments, or they could choose to reject them. God said that the choice belonged to the people. They could choose life and good or they could choose death and evil. If they obeyed the commandments of the Lord, God promised that He would bless them and cause them to multiply in the land that He was going to give to them. However, God also warned the people what would happen if they made the choice to turn away from Him and began to worship and serve other gods.

16. Read Deuteronomy 30:11-20 and write what God said would happen to them if they chose to serve other gods.

17. Explain why God told the people of Israel that He gave them His commandments but said that they could choose to obey or choose to reject those commandments.

18. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to know that you can also choose life and good or choose death and evil.

Rebellion against God brings certain judgment. God said that the people would die if they chose to serve other gods. As a result, God told the people that He had set before them a

choice. That was why it was their choice to choose life or death. Then, God encouraged the people to choose life. He encouraged the people to serve Him. Then, the people would live in the land that God had promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God is the One that gives life. It is His desire that all people will choose life and not turn away from Him.

19. Read Deuteronomy 30:11-20 and write what had to be true in the lives of the people in order for them to obey Him.

20. Explain the choices that the Lord gave to the nation of Israel in these verses and the consequences that would come from each choice.

21. Explain why you think that God encouraged the people to choose life and good rather than choose death.

After telling the people of Israel about the choice that God was giving to them, Moses began his last message to the people. Moses told the people that he was now one hundred and twenty years old. He had come to the end of his life. However, the people of Israel were just ready to begin a new life as they entered the land of promise. As the people entered the land, the Lord promised that He would go before the people and drive out the nations that were in the land. The Lord had also appointed Joshua to become the leader and lead the people into the land.

22. Read Deuteronomy 31:1-13 and write what the Lord promised to do to the people in the land.

23. Explain why Moses reminded the people that the Lord was about to give them a new life in the land of promise.

24. Explain why you think the Lord had Moses tell the people He had chosen Joshua to lead them into the land.

The Lord had given Israel complete victory over the armies of Sihon and Og. Now, God encouraged the people to be strong and not to be afraid. The people did not need to be afraid because the Lord would go with them. He would not leave them or fail them. Then, Moses called Joshua to the front of the people. Moses told Joshua that God had picked him to lead Israel into the land of promise. Joshua was not to be fearful or afraid. The Lord would go before him and be with him. Joshua did not need to be afraid because the Lord would never fail him.

25. Read Deuteronomy 31:1-13 and write what Moses did with the law after he wrote the law.

26. Explain why Moses told both the people of Israel and also Joshua that they did not need to be fearful or afraid.

27. Explain why you know that the Lord will give you His strength so that you do not need to be afraid as you trust and serve Him.

Moses gave the law to the priests and to the leaders of Israel. These men were instructed to gather the entire nation of Israel together once every seven years. This gathering was to include the women and the children as well as the men. At that gathering, the priests and the leaders were to read the entire law from Genesis through Deuteronomy to the people. This was to help the people learn the Word of God so that they would fear the Lord and do what the Lord told them to do. They were also to teach the Word of God to their children so that their children would also serve the Lord.

28. Read Deuteronomy 31:1-13 and write how long God said that the people were to obey this command to gather every seven years to hear the Word of God read.

29. Explain why God said that all of the people were to gather together to hear the Word of God read every seven years.

30. Explain why it is important to you to gather together with other Christians to hear the Word of God read and explained.

The Lord told Moses that the people would turn away from God after the death of Moses. God said that the people of Israel would begin to follow the false gods of the land. At the same time,

the people would forget the commandments of the Lord. God also warned that He would show His anger against sin when the people rebelled. He would hide His face from the people and allow great evil to come on the people. These troubles and evils would come on the people of Israel because they chose not to allow the Lord to be in control of their lives.

31. Read Deuteronomy 31:14-30 and write what Moses was told to write and teach to the people.

32. Explain why God told Moses in advance that the people would forget the commandments of the Lord and turn away from Him after they came into the land.

33. Explain why you are thankful that God showed His love and care for the people of Israel even though He knew that they would forget His commandments.

Moses was told to write a song that would warn the people of what would happen if they turned away from the Lord. We will be studying that song in our next lesson. This song would be a witness against the people if they did evil and turned away from the Lord. It would stand as a testimony in the day when the people of Israel turned from God to serve other gods. The people were to teach this song to their children so that it would never be forgotten by the children. God told Moses to teach the song to the people because God knew what the thoughts and the hearts of the people were like.

34. Read Deuteronomy 31:14-30 and write when Moses wrote the song.

35. Explain why God had Moses write a song and teach the song to the people to help them remember what God had said.

36. Explain why you think it is often easier for people to remember something that they can sing.

Moses was obedient to the Lord. That very same day he wrote the song and taught it to the people. After Moses completed the writing of the song, he finished writing the books of the law. Then, he gave the copy of the law to the Levites that carried the ark of the Covenant. This copy of the law was to be placed at the side of the ark. It was to be a witness against the sins of the people. The people had been very rebellious throughout the life of Moses. As a result, Moses knew that they would be even more rebellious after his death.

37. Read Deuteronomy 31:14-30 and write what Moses was told to gather before the Lord.

38. Explain why it was important for Moses to write this song and begin teaching it to the people the very day that God told Him to write the song.

39. Explain why you think that God told Moses to place a copy of the law at the side of the ark.

God told Moses to gather all of the leaders together so that they could hear the warning of God. Moses told these leaders that he knew that the people of Israel would turn away from the Lord after his death. Then, evil would come on the people because they had turned away from the commandments of the Lord. When any group of people turn away from the Lord, it becomes necessary for God to bring judgment on them because of that evil. God is a holy God and must judge sin.

40. Read Deuteronomy 31:14-30 and write who Moses told the words of the song that he had written.

41. Explain why Moses was instructed to gather all of the leaders together and warn them about the danger of turning away from the Lord.

42. Explain why you think that it is important for people to understand that when they choose to follow evil that the day will come when they will face judgment.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 30:1-31:30 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.

Survey of Deuteronomy
Lesson 15
Deuteronomy 32:1-34:12

Today, we come to our final lesson in our study of the book of Deuteronomy. In this lesson, we will see that Moses gave some of his final words to the people of Israel in the form of a song. This song gives a little review for the people of the way that the Lord works. As a result, it places a choice in front of the people. Every generation would have that song to remind them of the choice that they faced. Before his death, Moses also gave a blessing to all of the people of Israel. Then, we will learn how God gave Moses the privilege of viewing the land before he died.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what you learn about the way that God makes choices.
- Explain what you learn from the warning about judgment.
- Explain the blessings that were given to the various tribes.
- Tell about the death of Moses.

Moses began his song by speaking about the Lord. Our God is a great God. He is the Rock that can never be moved or broken. Everything that He does is right. His ways are just. He is a God that speaks the truth and does no evil. As we realize the greatness of God, we also realize the sinful condition of every person. Yet in spite of the fact that the Lord knew that Israel would be an evil and sinful nation, God said that He chose that nation to be His chosen people. Here, we are reminded that God did not choose Israel because of their goodness, but because that was His choice. God is the Father of the nation of Israel. He chose Israel and established the people as a nation.

1. Read Deuteronomy 32:1-25 and write what the people of Israel were told to remember.
2. Explain why it is important for all people to understand that God is a great God and that He is a Rock that can never be moved or broken.
3. Explain why it is important for you to know that God also chose you because that was His choice and not because of your goodness.

The people were asked to remember the way that God had chosen His people many years before. When God chose Jacob, he was like a man wandering in the wilderness. However, the Lord had found Jacob. Then, the Lord had led him and taught him. The Lord also provided for him as he led him. God protected Jacob just as an eagle protects her young. As a result, Jacob depended on the Lord to lead him. He did not follow any strange gods. Then, the Lord blessed Jacob and caused his possessions to increase and multiply. However, something happened to Israel as the nation was blessed by the Lord and increased.

4. Read Deuteronomy 32:1-25 and write what happened to Jeshurun (Israel).
5. Explain what this song teaches about the way that the Lord had worked in the life of Jacob because He had chosen Jacob.
6. Explain why you are thankful for the fact that God first chose you and then He found you and brought you to Himself.

The nation of Israel enjoyed great blessings from the Lord. As a result, they grew fat. Then, they turned away from God and the Rock of His salvation (Christ). When the people turned away from the Lord, they began to follow false gods. They even offered sacrifices to demons. They created new gods with their own hands and began to worship those gods. They forgot that the Lord was the One that had chosen them. They forgot that God had formed them and made them. The Lord was filled with anger when He saw the sins of the people.

7. Read Deuteronomy 32:1-25 and write what God said He would hide from the people of Israel.
8. Explain why God said that the people turned away from Him and began to make new gods with their own hands.
9. Explain why you think that many people forget that God is the One that formed them and made them.

God is a holy God, and cannot look at sin. As a result of the rebellion of the people of Israel, it was necessary for God to turn His face away from Israel. Then, great judgments came on the people because God was not protecting them. Instead, God allowed judgment to come on them to punish them for their sins. God used many nations to bring this judgment. These things included other nations, the weather, wild animals and war. This judgment came on all of the people and included both the young and the old. Judgment affected all of the people.

10. Read Deuteronomy 32:1-25 and write what God said the people would experience both without and within.
11. Explain how this song gave the people of Israel a real picture of the results of rebellion.
12. Explain why you think that great judgments will always come on the nations when the Lord is not protecting them.

God was also tempted to scatter the people among their enemies. However, He did not scatter the people because of His love and mercy. God realized that the people did not have a clear understanding of Him. Instead of following the Lord, who is the Rock of salvation, the people had followed the ways of the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. Because God is a God of love, it was necessary for Him to judge His people so that they would return to Him. When God judged the people, their other gods could not protect them or help the people. As a result, the people of Israel had no one to protect or help them when God brought judgment for sin.

13. Read Deuteronomy 32:26-52 and write what other gods are with God.
14. Explain why God will judge His people in love in order to get them to turn from sin and return to Him.
15. Explain why you think that God allowed the people of Israel to see that the other gods that they had made were not able to protect them.

Here, we are reminded that false gods are not gods at all. They cannot even be compared to the true and living God. These false gods do not have any power. God is the One that gives life or brings death. God is the One that can either wound or heal. No one else can deliver a person from the hand of God. God is the One that will bring judgment. We also see that Israel was actually faced with other choices. If they chose to serve the Lord, God promised to bring judgment on the enemies of Israel. If Israel chose to rebel against God, the judgment of God would come on the people of Israel. That was why it was the decision of the people to make the choice whether they wanted to receive the blessing of the Lord or the judgment of the Lord.

16. Read Deuteronomy 32:26-52 and write who helped Moses teach this song to the people of Israel.
17. Explain why it is important for people to come to the point where they realize that other gods are not gods at all and do not have power to help them.
18. Explain why you think that God said that He would judge the enemies of Israel if the people of Israel chose to follow Him.

Hoshea was another name for Joshua. When Joshua and Moses had finished teaching the song to the people, Moses spoke to the people and encouraged them to obey the words that the Lord had spoken to them. Moses told the people that they would be blessed for obedience. Obedience would give them long life. That same day, Moses was told to go up to Mount Nebo because that was the place where he was going to die. God reminded Moses again that the reason that he was not allowed to enter the land was due to the fact that he had struck the rock, instead of speaking to the rock. He had focused on his own efforts instead of bringing glory to

God.

19. Read Deuteronomy 32:26-52 and write what God said Moses would have the privilege of doing from the mountain.

20. Explain what these verses teach about the holiness and character of God.

21. Explain why you think that one of the final things that Moses did was to encourage the people to obey the words of the Lord.

Just before Moses went up to the mountain to die, he gave a blessing to the various tribes of Israel. We begin by reading that the Lord loved the people. If it would not have been for the great love of God for Israel, God would have destroyed the nation of Israel long before. Moses began the blessings with the tribe of Reuben. Moses said that the men of Reuben would not become few in number. The hands of the people of Judah would be sufficient for the work that the Lord had for the people of Judah to do. The people of Levi had been set apart to teach the law of the Lord to the people of the other tribes so that they would know the law.

22. Read Deuteronomy 33:1-29 and write what the people of Levi would offer in addition to incense.

23. Explain why as a part of his blessing Moses explained to the people of Judah that the hands of the people would be sufficient for the work that God gave them as a tribe.

24. Explain why you think God reminded the people that He loved them, before Moses gave the blessings to each tribe.

God said that those who were greatly loved by the Lord would live in safety by Benjamin. Joseph was promised great and wonderful blessing in the land. The land would produce very richly for the descendants of Joseph. His descendants would also be very powerful and have power over the people to the ends of the earth. The people of Zebulun would be blessed as they went out. The people of Issachar would be blessed in their tents. Both Zebulun and Issachar would enjoy riches which would come from trading with other nations. They would live by the sea and enjoy the riches that came from the sea.

25. Read Deuteronomy 33:1-29 and write what Moses said about the blessing of the tribe of Gad.

26. Explain why the blessing of the descendants of Joseph said that they would have power over people to the ends of the earth.

27. Explain why you think that Moses took time to give a special blessing to each of the tribes of Israel.

The tribe of Gad was promised that it would be enlarged. God said that the reason that Gad would increase would be due to the fact that it was the Lord that would cause them to increase. The tribe of Dan would be like a young lion. The tribe of Naphtali would enjoy the favor of the Lord. They would be full of blessings that came from the Lord. The tribe of Asher was given the promise that their tribe would be blessed with children. They were also told that their strength would be like the length of their days. God had promised the people that they would have long life if they were obedient. This promise to Asher, meant that their tribe would have great strength if that tribe was obedient to the Lord.

28. Read Deuteronomy 33:1-29 and write who God said would be an eternal refuge for the entire nation of Israel.

29. Explain what these verses teach about the promises that were made to the various tribes of the nation of Israel.

30. Explain why it is also important to you in your own life to speak words of blessing to others.

When Moses had finished blessing the individual tribes, he spoke about the entire nation of Israel. Israel served the true God and none of the false gods could compare to Him in any way. God has existed throughout all eternity. He is able to provide a permanent place of rest and

safety. The people did not need to be afraid or fearful of any of their enemies. God was able to destroy all of the enemies of Israel. The nation of Israel would then live in safety. The Lord would also fill the people of Israel with happiness. This happiness would come from the fact that Israel had been saved and helped by the Lord that had made them.

31. Read Deuteronomy 33:1-29 and write what God said would be found out about the enemies of Israel.

32. Explain why Moses reminded the people of Israel that they did not need to be fearful or afraid of any of their enemies.

33. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to realize that because of the Lord that you do not need to be fearful or afraid.

When Moses had finished blessing the various tribes of Israel, he left the people and went to Mount Nebo. There, he climbed to the top of Pisgah. There, Moses was able to look at the land that God had promised to the nation of Israel. He was able to see all the way to the Mediterranean Sea on the opposite side of the land. Then, God told Moses that he was looking at the land that God had promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Even though Moses did not have the privilege of entering the land that God had promised to Israel because of his sin, Moses did have the privilege of seeing the land.

34. Read Deuteronomy 34:1-12 and write where Moses died.

35. Explain why God gave Moses the privilege of seeing the land that God had promised that He would give to the people of Israel.

36. Explain how you think that Moses felt as he looked at the land that God had promised to the people of Israel.

Moses died in the land of Moab exactly as the Lord had said that he would. Then, God buried Moses. Since God was the One that buried Moses, no man ever found out where Moses had been buried. Even though Moses was a hundred and twenty years old, we read that he was still like a young man when he died. He could see as well as he had seen when he was young. He was as strong as he had been when he was a young man. God had kept Moses in perfect health so that he would be able to do the things that God wanted him to do.

37. Read Deuteronomy 34:1-12 and write who became the leader of the people of Israel when Moses died.

38. Explain why the Lord had chosen to give Moses the strength of a young man right up to the time that he died.

39. Explain why you are thankful that the Lord will give you the strength that you need for the work that the Lord has chosen you to do.

When Moses died, Joshua became the leader of the people of Israel. We read that Joshua was a man that was full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. In order to be an effective leader for the Lord, each of us also need to be filled with the Holy Spirit and wisdom. This happens as we yield our lives to Christ and let Him have complete control in our lives. We also read that there had never been another prophet like Moses. He was the only one that talked face to face with God. God also used Moses to do many powerful signs and wonders in the land of Egypt.

40. Read Deuteronomy 34:1-12 and write how the people accepted the leadership of Joshua.

41. Explain why it is important for every godly leader to be full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom.

42. Explain why it is your desire to yield to the Lord so that you can serve in the power of the Holy Spirit and receive the wisdom of the Lord.

Now, reread Deuteronomy 32:1-34:12 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters.