

## Devarim 2020 Notes

These notes are by no means complete. These notes serve to complement the video, so please utilize the space on the page to write down any extra notes that you think are necessary.

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Deuteronomy is written as a covenantal renewal before Moses died

The principle of the commandment(s) lasts forever, but some commandments have specifics in order to be fulfilled (in Israel, women/men, etc.)

200 commandments are present in Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy 1:1 uses legal language in context of a covenantal renewal

If we are to teach Torah we need to understand the structure of a covenant

Torah is not a theological document (though it has interpretations), rather, it is a legal document

- A constitution with a structure of government

When you swear an oath using God as a witness and break it - you get curses because you shame God and yourself

- God has to restore honor to His name

Taking God's name in vain is legal in nature

Practicing righteousness and justice brings honor to God's name

It is the duty of humanity that we'd behave with the character of the God of Israel

- This uplifts God's name
- Because we'd be honoring the covenant

We're supposed to read Deuteronomy during Sukkot

"Love" is covenantal

Elements of a covenant

- Preamble
  - Identifies who the king is
  - Deuteronomy 1:1-4
- Prologue
  - Rehearses the history of the Suzerain and the Vassal

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- Deuteronomy 1:5-4:29
- Stipulations
  - Laws and regulations
  - Terms and conditions
  - Deuteronomy 5-26
- Sanctions
  - Consequences
  - Blessings and curses
  - Deuteronomy 27-28
- Witnesses
  - Ratifies the covenant
  - Heaven and earth
  - Deuteronomy 30:19
- Disposition of documents
  - Where the documents will be placed
    - 2 copies - 1 for each party in their language
    - 3rd copy in the international language at that time
      - Akkadian in the time of Moses
  - When the documents will be read
    - To remind of the covenant
  - Deuteronomy 31:9-13

Reading Deuteronomy requires the backdrop of a covenant

Deuteronomy renews the covenant made at Mt. Sinai with the second generation

- New people were born

Sacrifices and blood ratifies and guarantees the covenant

You'd put the copy of the document at the footstool of your god - so the god will be reminded/bear witness of the covenant

- Ark in this case

The Torah is the only ANE document where the deity initiates the covenant

When Israel transgresses the covenant = famine

- Heaven and earth are witnesses

Signs of transgression

- Famine
- Exile

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God cannot dwell where there is moral sin

Obedience - blessings

Rebellion - curses

Shema - declaration of the oath

Understanding the structure of covenant helps discern the right “spirit”

We are to have each other's back - our responsibility in a covenantal relationship

- We all share the same suzerain

Love = loyalty

Joshua 24 - covenant renewal of the Sinai covenant

Yeshua did the job of a covenantal renewal at Passover, therefore Yeshua cannot add nor take away from the Torah

1 Thessalonians 1:9-10

- Wrath to come = death = curse of the law

Prophets in the ancient world - sons of Aaron

“Thus says the lord God ... Egypt/slavery ... mighty hand ...” - language that suggests reconciliation of covenantal relationship

2 types of messengers in ancient world

- Someone near the king's court/son
  - “I like you”
  - Reconciliation
- General/Military man
  - “I don't like you at the moment”
  - Change your ways or else war

Paying tribute to another king = transgression

Solidifying covenant in ancient world was done by blood connections

- Having a family between parties
  - This would make them think twice before transgression of the covenant because families were connected

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The messenger had the authority of the king who sent them

- Treating them rudely or hurting them was an act of war

John 17:1-11

- In context of Yeshua as royal messenger

If you reject Yeshua, you reject the Father

- In context of Yeshua as royal messenger

We are one with God because we are in covenant with Him - John 17:11

- Covenantal language

Idolatry = direct transgression of covenant

- Submitting to a different king
  - Treason

Saying the Shema + worshiping other gods = idolatry

Trees in ANE were signs of a covenant

- Similar to raising up a stone/pillar

Romans 10 - quoting Deuteronomy 30

- v. 9
  - Confession
  - Covenantal relationship
  - Accepting the covenantal renewal that was instituted before Yeshua died

Ceremonies included sacrifices/blood

- Exodus 24
- Deuteronomy 27
- Joshua 8

Sabbath = sign of covenant

Yeshua as witness (Revelation) - because he will stand on our behalf