

# Deuteronomy

## Introduction:

Deuteronomy gets its name from the Greek “*deuteros*” meaning **second** and “*nomos*” meaning **law**. So, in this book we have a **second** giving of the **law** – or better, an explanation of the law to the new generation of Israel. It is important to realize that in Deuteronomy there is no forward movement in the journey of God’s people. At the end of Numbers they are at the edge of the Promised Land. At the beginning of Joshua they are still there. So, while they prepare to move forward to accomplish the mission of God they take time to look back and remember the lessons they have learned. This book is written to the next generation of God’s people to remind them and us valuable lessons about our God.

## Importance of The Book

**Deuteronomy is quoted more times in the Bible than any other book** – 365. It’s no wonder Jesus frequently quoted from Deuteronomy (Luke 4:4, 8,12, Mathew 4:4,7,10) because the book’s theme is love. From Genesis to Numbers the love of God is never spoken of; but here we have the wonderful words of His love (Deut. 4:37,7:7-8, 10:15, 23:5. Deuteronomy is a book of transition:

1. Transition to a new generation
2. Transition to a new possession
3. Transition to a new experience
4. Transition to a new revelation of His love

## Structure of The Book

- I. Looking Back in Remembrance (1-11)
- II. Looking Forward in Obedience (12-26)
- III. Looking Presently at Decisiveness (27-34)

**Key Words** – Remember & Obey

**Key verse** – Deuteronomy 6:4-7

*“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, The Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children.”*



## Moses Looking Out Over the Promised Land

### I. Looking Back in Remembrance (1-11)

God's people are gathered on the plains of Moab. It had taken them 40 years to make a trip that should have only taken 20 days. As they prepare to move forward, God calls them to look back to:

- **Remember the Bitterness (1:1-2:25)** - The lack of faith by the previous generation proved to be very costly. As you move forward - Don't repeat this mistake!
- **Remember the Battles (2:26-4:49)**- As you move forward into battle for God remember how He was been faithful in previous battles.
- **Remember the Basics (5-7)** – As you move forward, remember that the people of God were rescued from slavery for a purpose – to worship and to serve.
- **Remember the Blessings (8-11)** – As you move forward, please be very careful not to forget God. The dangerous tendency of the people of God is to begin to love the blessings of God more than God Himself!

### II. Looking Forward in Obedience (12-26)

- **God Demands Supremacy (12-13)** – God will not accept from His people anything less than first place
- **God Demands Sanctity (14-26)** – The people of God are to be set apart, different, and unique. Deut. 14:1-2 set the stage for this entire section. God says the people of God must be set apart in:

What you put into your body - 14  
Giving of Money/Resources - 14  
Lending Money - 15  
Treating Servants - 15  
Celebrating harvest - 16  
Governing and judges - 17

Kings - 17:17  
Priests and prophets - 18  
Handling crime - 19  
Going to War - 20  
Living daily life - 21-25

### III. Looking Presently at Decisiveness (27-34)

After God asks His people to look back and remember and to look forward and obey, He presents them a decision in the present. A key verse is Deut. 31:6 –

Will the people of God choose to be strong and courageous or will they follow in the footsteps of the previous generation and be afraid and terrified. We are faced with the same question today!