

MURPHY ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 2nd, 2017

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Study at the Quinns July 21st

PRAYER REQUESTS

Jenny Spradlin

Gloria Ferrell

Millie Broussard

Leola Weathers

John Cash

Austin Wilburn

Donna Meeks

Pat Andress

Jonelle Wilcox

SHUT IN

Bess Pollock

TRAVELING

Janice Mabry

Mary Canales

The Horton's

Vanessa and children

Meeting Times:

Sunday: 9:30 Worship

Sunday: 10:30 Bible Class

Sunday: 5:00 Worship

Wednesday 7:30 PM Bible Class

Looking for opportunities to serve?

- Talk to an elder about teaching a Bible Class.
- Ask an elder about specific needs that can be met.

Interested in further Bible study?

- Speak with our full time evangelist. Nathan Quinn can be reached at (402) 304-5699.

*"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God;
and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God."*

1st John 4:7



Reading Your Bible Series

Deuteronomy

By Nathan Quinn

The first five books of the Bible are cumulatively known as the books of Moses or the Books of the Law. They give a historical overview of the descendants of Abraham leading up to the land promise fulfilled to Abraham. The final book of Moses is called Deuteronomy. The word deuteronomy means second law, and it refers to the second giving of the law as the following generation entered into (or renewed) a covenant with God. For those interested, this book can be outlined similarly to ancient Hittite treaties, which would be made between a dominant and a submissive nation. It seems as though God used a common formula for communicating the importance of Israel remembering the “Lord your God”, a phrase found 279 times in this book! Jesus quotes Deuteronomy ten times in the Gospels! The only book Jesus quoted more is the book of Psalms. Jesus also quoted Deuteronomy to the devil to answer all three of His temptations (Deuteronomy 6:13, 16, 8:3).

The book begins with the nation of Israel camped near the Jordan in the plains of Moab preparing to enter the land of Canaan. Moses, their leader for over 40 years, is about to pass on, so the new generation of God’s people are now entering into their own covenant with God. This is the setting of this great book as Moses speaks God’s word to the coming generation.

After the introduction, the first major section of Deuteronomy recounts the history. As the children of Israel knew, the recent history was filled with grumbling and rebellion (1:43). After recounting the recent history, Moses encourages them to learn from the previous generation’s mistakes, as well as to teach the next generation those valuable lessons (4:9, 40).

Starting in chapter five, Moses begins to state the “statutes and ordinances” of the covenant that is about to be renewed. In this section, the laws are more general and broad. As God states the laws of this covenant, He begins with the Ten commandments (5:6-21) as He had done in Exodus 20 to the previous generation. If they would obey these words, God would be with them (5:32-33). In Deuteronomy 6:4-5, we have what Jesus would call “the greatest commandment”. Once again, the importance of serving God with all one’s heart is continually stressed. As you read Deuteronomy, notice how the old law did not teach a ritualistic outward approach to serving God the commandments were always to be “written on the heart” (6:6). Throughout this section, the Lord gives them instructions to be humble and to not forget the Lord when He blesses them (8:11-14). Starting in chapter 12 through 26, the laws are more specific. There are laws regarding the dangers of false prophets and those who would speak a message that would lead them away from the true and living God (13). There are instructions regarding clean and unclean animals (14). He outlines instructions regarding the sabbath year and the three Jewish festivals (15-16), as well as laws about sacrifices (17). And finally details of life for the children of Israel are given. If they were careful to do all God had commanded, they would be blessed (26:16-19).

Chapters 27 and 28 state the official blessings and curses that would come upon Israel in response to their obedience or disobedience to the covenant into which they entered. After an initial call to obedience, the first section of curses is laid out to the children of Israel (27:15-26). In chapter 28, the blessings of obedience are spelled out, followed by a greater list of curses for disobedience (28:15-68). All of this stresses that God was completely clear about the rewards of obedience and the consequences of disobedience.

As the book concludes (29-31), there are more lessons from history that are designed to help Israel recognize the importance of choosing life (30:15) as God had planned which would result in God blessing His people greatly. As the book concludes, Moses will die shortly after commissioning Joshua to take the helm and lead the children of Israel. The book of Deuteronomy is an incredible work that stresses the importance of obedience and faithfulness.