



THE BOOK OF
DEUTERONOMY

Sermon Series Notes



“A Glorious Contrast” (Deuteronomy 27-28)

Dave Dodge – OT3514

Intro:

- Their very positions are opposed to each other
- Mt Ebal and Mt Gerizim (N & S,) both about 3,000’ high,
- Peaks 3 miles apart, valley between is 1 mile
- They form natural amphitheater (Tested)
 - Speaking from the mountainside easily heard in valley
- Palestine Road, major trade route ran E & W between them
- God created an outdoor room where all Israel could hear commands

Here we have the command and later Joshua & Israel will enact it

The word curse appears 12 consecutive times in Chapter 27 and is clearly a reference to the 12 tribes

- Meaning that all under obligation to keep the law or experience it’s curse. (Akin to)
- **Rom 3:23** For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Statement: While obedience is a very important precept in the old & new Testaments, the grace of God through faith is always present,... and is prearranged by God to come before obedience. As we walk with the Lord, **we must understand this.**

In Exodus God delivered the Israelites from bondage through 10 miraculous plagues, Parted the Red Sea, then brought them safely to Sinai to hear the law

Rom 4:3 It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. ¹⁴ For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, ¹⁵ because the law brings wrath.

- Abraham was called the friend of God

P.2

Jn 15:15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. David was a man after Gods own heart,

You can know about God. You can follow his teachings. You can think you’re keeping the rules. You can dress, talk, and walk Christianese and still not know Him, You can know about Him,...but until God draws us to himself, opens our heart by grace and grants us faith to believe,...we cannot know Him. There is no amount of obedience that will help us know Him relationally

What does knowing about him,..... but not knowing Him, look like

1. You think you keep the rules, and you read scripture, you're here every Wednesday and weekend, you may even go on mission trips, but you don't have a testimony of ongoing transformation in your life?
2. One of the scariest verses in the Bible for anyone actively obedient without faith is,.....

Mt 7:21 Not everyone who says to me Lord, Lord will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, Lord, Lord did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles? Then I will tell them plainly, I never knew you, away from me you evildoers

- Gods holy justice which requires perfection on our part and Gods Unconditional love stand opposed to each like Ebal and Gerizim

Thankfully God has solved the problem of Mt Ebal and Mt Gerizim

P.3

- We get to know God because of the gospel,...Christs death, burial, and resurrection.
- Even though we fail, God has placed us In Christ by grace through faith and **Rom. 8:1** There is therefore.....
- And **(2 Cor. 5:21) (we'll come back to that)**

So,...lets take a look at the rich history of this geography with a mindset towards this book from cover to cover is about the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, the gospel

Dave Harvey says that everything in scripture is either...

1. Presentation of the gospel
2. Preparation for the gospel
3. Participation in the gospel

Abraham, journeyed 900miles and stopped at Shechem

- God spoke to Abe and said go to a land I will show you.
- Abe believed God and in faith was obedient
- Built an altar to God who appeared to Him at Shechem
- What we see over and over is that God initiates relationship
- He appeared to Abe and He spoke about the promise of a child, and said I will give this land to your offspring

Jacob, coming back from Paddan-aram stopped at Shechem

- God had said to him when he left Canaan that He would be with Jacob
 - He would give the land of canaan to his offspring
 - He would bring him back to Canaan
 - 21 years later God said go back to Canaan now

P.4

- In Gen 32 by faith Jacob is returning to Canaan

- Hears that Esau is coming
- Jacob truly at the end of himself...
- Wrestles w/ Jesus and wins.....
 - What winning w/ Jesus looks like
 - U walk away with a broken leg,....not really
 - But Jacob never walked the way he did before
- Bought a piece of land from Shechemites and pitched his tent...
- Built an altar there because the Lord delivered him from Laban, granted him favor w/ Esau, (whom he cheated), and brought him back to the land.
- - Named the Altar, Mighty is the God of Israel(His New Name)
 - **This is Faith based relational obedience**
- And in that place terrible failure occurred.
 - **Dinah seduced**
 - **Circumcision deal**
 - **Simeon and Levi.....kill all the males in that town**

Joseph, (90 yrs later) said when God delivers Israel from Egypt...

- Takes my bones and bury them on that little patch of land in Shechem that Jacob bequeathed to Him
- Look at Joseph's life of Faithful obedience

Joshua, (450 yrs later) after the eventual defeat of Ai, go to Shechem and actually pronounce these cursing's and blessings on Mt Ebal and Mt Gerizim

Gideons son Jotham, (Jud 9) half brother of Abimelech who had slain his seventy brothers and made a deal with Shechem to be leader.

Jn 4 the woman at the Well.....Read it

P.5

- Sycar in old Hebrew some scholars believe to be Shechem
 - Regardless Jacobs well very near Shechem and in the valley
 - Jesus sitting down there being the word knowing the word...
 - At noon a woman comes to draw water with the curses of her life ringing from Mt Ebal in the background
 - Jesus engages her, becomes the curse for her in what he will do
 - Speaks to her in a way that moves her from
 - Jew – Sir – Prophet – Messiah
 - Here we are sitting between these 2 Mts and if you knew me as the gift of God.....
- EXPOUND:**
- **Mt Moriah is where we worship**

(Overheads) Jn 14:21, Col 2:13, Gal 3:13

The gospel rescues me from me. [@PaulTripp #TGP15](#)

The victorious Christian life isn't the sinless life; it's the repentant life. [@TrevinWax](#) [#TGP15](#)

By learning of God's deep love for us, a deep love for God is produced in us. [@JDGreear](#) [#TGP15](#)

The gospel reconciles us first to God and then to one another. [@trillianewbell](#) [#TGP15](#)

Discipleship is not a ministry of your church; it is the ministry of your church. [@dhati](#) [#TGP15](#)

The community is the place where your need for the gospel is powerfully revealed. [@JeffVanderstelt](#) [#TGP15](#)

Jesus came to earth not to make bad people good people but to make dead people alive. [@louiegiglio](#) [#TGP15](#)