

# The Book of Deuteronomy

# 3

## Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

## Morning Study

This morning we complete our study of **Deuteronomy**, reading **chapters 27-34**. In this section, we discover the most pronounced descriptions of the blessings to those who abide by the covenant of Sinai and the curses upon those who disobey.

These chapters (and particularly **chapter 28**) form the basis upon which many of the Old Testament prophets spoke to Israel. They called Israel back to the terms of the Sinai Covenant, showing how the people had violated the covenant, thus resulting in the curses they were experiencing. Take a look at these examples:

- **1 Kings 17:1** – Elijah audaciously pronounces “there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.” What gave him the authority to make such a bold declaration? The covenantal blessings and curses of **Deuteronomy 28!** (read **Deuteronomy 28:22-24**).
- **Haggai 1:5** – The Lord speaks to the people of Israel and says: “Give careful thought to your ways. You have planted much, but have harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it.” Why had this happened? Because Israel had violated the terms of the Covenant of Sinai (see **Deuteronomy 28:38-40**).
- **Malachi 3:8-12** – The people were experiencing the curses of **Deuteronomy 28** because they had robbed God of the tithes required under the covenant made with him at Sinai. But returning to the terms of the covenant will result, the Lord says, in the blessings of **Deuteronomy 28**.

Always remember that you, as a believer in Christ, are no longer under the terms of the Sinai Covenant. The curse of the law has been nailed to the Cross in Christ! (read **Galatians 3:10-14**). Under the terms of the New Covenant, God has “blessed us...with every spiritual blessing in Christ.” With this in mind, let's now read **Deuteronomy 27-34**.

# Memory Verse

From the fullness of his grace we have all  
received one blessing after another.

John 1:16

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!