

This evening we'll cover four topics as we look at the book of Deuteronomy which are: title and theme, author and date, outline and chapter summary and points to ponder.

### I. TITLE AND THEME

The name 'Deuteronomy' in our English Bible comes from the Greek translation of the Hebrew Scriptures known as the Septuagint. The word Deuteronomy in Greek means **second law**. This book was given this title because this book is a reiteration of the wilderness generation. The title of this book in the Hebrew Bible comes from the first verse of the book and it is translated into English as "these are the words." The Hebrew title focuses on Moses explanation and application of the law to the wilderness generation.

The theme of the book of Deuteronomy is it is a reiteration and reaffirmation of the law and the Mosaic Covenant which God made with Israel 40 earlier at Mount Sinai. The generation known as the Exodus Generation failed to enter the land of Canaan. As a result of Israel's disobedience God declared that everyone that was over 20 years of age with the exception of Joshua and Caleb were to die in the wilderness.

Just as God said all the Exodus Generation dead and now those under 20 known as the Wilderness Generation were lead by Moses to the Plain of Moab which is East of the Jordan River to be prepared to enter the land of Canaan and possess it. Before they do Moses who also could not enter the promise land gives a Farewell sermon which consisted of Israel's history, a reiteration the law and Mosaic Covenant and prophetic prophecies.

## **II. AUTHOR AND DATE**

The book of Deuteronomy is Moses' fifth and final book. There is both internal and external evidence to show that Moses is the author of this book. First concerning the internal evidence Moses is said to have spoke this sermon (*Deuteronomy 1:1, 5*) and then wrote it in a book (*Deuteronomy 31:19, 22, 24*). The external evidence is that both the Old Testament (*1 Kings 2:3, 8:53, 2 Kings 14:6, 18:12*) and New Testament (*Acts 3:22-23, Romans 10:19*). It is important to note that Moses did not write the whole book, because this book records his death. Chapters 32:48-34:12 were probably written by Moses' successor Joshua.

Concerning the date of the writing of Deuteronomy, Moses probably wrote this book before his death in 1405-1406 B.C.



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#### **III. OUTLINE AND CHAPTER SUMMARY**

The book of Deuteronomy can be divided four sections.

- I. Israel's history (Chapters 1-4)
- II. God's Covenant with Israel and the Law (Chapters 5-26)
- III. Moses' prophecies (Chapters 27-30)
- IV. Moses last words, death and burial (Chapters 31-34)

#### **IV. POINTS TO PONDER**

I. Israel's history (Chapters 1-4)

It's good to look at your history from a Biblical perspective and learn from it.

II. God's Covenant with Israel and the Law (Chapters 5-26)

The church is not under law but under grace. The law taught do and be blessed, grace teaches you are blessed therefore do (Ephesians 1).

III. Moses' prophecies (Chapters 27-30)

God's word will come to pass. What God says will happen, because of that we must obey God.

IV. Moses' last words, death and burial (Chapters 31-34)

The life of Moses shows us the importance of finishing strong.

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