

**Deuteronomy II**  
***The Covenant of Moab***  
**Deuteronomy 29:1-29; Deuteronomy 30:1-20**

I. INTRODUCTORY THOUGHTS

A. Theme of the Chapter

- i. Instruction
- ii. Admonition
- iii. Obedience
- iv. Prophecy

B. Usage of Words

i. “*thou*”

1. Used twenty (20 x) times in fifteen (15) verses ( Deuteronomy 29:12; Deuteronomy 30:1; Deuteronomy 30:2; Deuteronomy 30:5; Deuteronomy 30:6; Deuteronomy 30:8; Deuteronomy 30:10; Deuteronomy 30:12; Deuteronomy 30:13; Deuteronomy 30:14; Deuteronomy 30:16; Deuteronomy 30:17; Deuteronomy 30:18; Deuteronomy 30:19; Deuteronomy 30:20)
2. Used to refer to Children of Israel and individuals in the chapter.

ii. “*thy*”

1. Used forty-two (42 x) times in seventeen (17) verses (Deuteronomy 29:5; Deuteronomy 29:11; Deuteronomy 29:12; Deuteronomy 29:13; Deuteronomy 30:1; Deuteronomy 30:2; Deuteronomy 30:3; Deuteronomy 30:4; Deuteronomy 30:5; Deuteronomy 30:6; Deuteronomy 30:7; Deuteronomy 30:9; Deuteronomy 30:10; Deuteronomy 30:14; Deuteronomy 30:16; Deuteronomy 30:19; Deuteronomy 30:20)
2. Used in the possessive sense, referring to the Children of Israel.

iii. “*command; commanded; commandment; commandments*”

1. Used nine (9 x) times in six (6) verses in its various forms (Deuteronomy 29:1; Deuteronomy 30:2; Deuteronomy 30:8; Deuteronomy 30:10; Deuteronomy 30:11; Deuteronomy 30:16)
2. Used to instruct the Children of Israel.

C. Usage of Phrases

i. “*This day*”

1. Used fourteen (14 x) times in thirteen (13) verses (Deuteronomy 29:4; Deuteronomy 29:10; Deuteronomy 29:12; Deuteronomy 29:15; Deuteronomy 29:18; Deuteronomy 29:28; Deuteronomy 30:2;

- Deuteronomy 30:8; Deuteronomy 30:11; Deuteronomy 30:15;  
Deuteronomy 30:16; Deuteronomy 30:18; Deuteronomy 30:19)
2. Used in reference of instructing the Children of Israel.
- ii. *“Thou shalt not”*
    1. Used zero (0 x) times in zero (0) verses.
    2. Used to instruct the Children of Israel.
  - iii. *“Thou shalt”*
    1. Used four (4 x) time in four (4) verses (Deuteronomy 30:1; Deuteronomy 30:5; Deuteronomy 30:8; Deuteronomy 30:10)
    2. Used to instruct the Children of Israel in what not to do.
  - iv. *“LORD thy God”*
    1. Used seventeen (17 x) times in twelve (12) verses (Deuteronomy 29:12; Deuteronomy 30:1; Deuteronomy 30:2; Deuteronomy 30:3; Deuteronomy 30:4; Deuteronomy 30:5; Deuteronomy 30:6; Deuteronomy 30:7; Deuteronomy 30:9; Deuteronomy 30:10; Deuteronomy 30:16; Deuteronomy 30:20)
    2. Used to show the relationship of the congregation and God.
  - v. *“LORD our God”*
    1. Used three (3 x) times in three (3) verses (Deuteronomy 29:15; Deuteronomy 29:18; Deuteronomy 29:29)
    2. Used to show the relationship of the congregation and God.

### II. THE SECOND COVENANT (Deuteronomy 29:1)

- A. Made “This Day” (Deuteronomy 28:1)
  - i. *“This Day”* used seven times in chapter 29.
    1. That they should enter into the covenant with the LORD thy (their) God
    2. That the LORD thy God maketh with thee **this day**.
  - ii. To establish them for a people unto God himself (Deuteronomy 29:13; Deuteronomy 7:6; Deuteronomy 28:9)
  - iii. In the land of Moab (Deuteronomy 29:1)
    1. Shortly before Moses will go up into the mount and die
      - a. To die atop Mt. Pisgah (Deuteronomy 34:1)
      - b. In the land of Moab (Deuteronomy 34:5)
    2. Before their crossing the Jordan to take the land (Joshua 3)
- B. To Be Made with Them and Their Children (Deuteronomy 29:14-15)
  - i. They would be reminded of this covenant when they were come into the land (Joshua 8:30-35)
  - ii. Their children to enter into this covenant as well (Deuteronomy 29:15; Deuteronomy 29:29)

1. That their children might know the law (Deuteronomy 31:9-13)
    - a. To hear it
    - b. To learn it
    - c. To fear the LORD God
  2. As long as they live in the land
- C. A Different Covenant than the One Made at Horeb (Exodus 19:3-5; Exodus 24:2-8)
- i. The Covenant at Mt. Horeb
    1. Given to the fathers of those now listening to Moses
    2. The covenant encompasses Exodus 19 through 24
    3. The ten commandments given in this covenant (Exodus 20)
    4. Divers laws and ordinances given from Exodus 21 through 23
  - ii. The Covenant of Moab
    1. Given to the children that wandered in the wilderness that are now grown, and to their children
    2. To be followed in the land that they were to possess
    3. Reiterates the law already given
    4. Just like the promise before in that it is conditional (Exodus 19:5)
      - a. They would be his peculiar treasure (people) ( Deuteronomy 14:2; Deuteronomy 26:18)
      - b. To be above all people of the earth (Deuteronomy 26:19; Deuteronomy 28:1)
      - c. To be a holy nation unto Him (Deuteronomy 26:19; Deuteronomy 28:9)
      - d. The Condition (Exodus 19:5-6; Deuteronomy 28:1; Deuteronomy 30:15, 19-20)
        - i) If they would obey His voice
        - ii) And keep His covenant

### III. A HEART TO PERCEIVE (Deuteronomy 29:2-4)

- A. What God Had Done (Deuteronomy 29:2-8; Deuteronomy 4:32-35; Deuteronomy 7:18-19)
- i. The temptations that their eyes had seen
  - ii. The signs and wonders that they had beheld
  - iii. The temptations?
    1. The great temptations:
      - a. There are temptations sent by God (Genesis 22:1)
        - i) These temptations are not sinful
          - a) When most believers think about temptation and the Bible's usage of it they most often associate temptation with sin.

- b) While this may be the scripture's most common usage of it, one must also consider context when determining what the word is referring to.
  - c) God certainly tempted Abraham, however, the temptation was not to bring about sin. Instead it was to strengthen Abraham's faith. It was to "try" his faith.
    - ii) They are to "try" one's faith and to strengthen it (James 1:2-3)
    - iii) God never tempts man with sin (James 1:13)
  - b. Sinful temptations are of the flesh and the Devil (Matthew 4:1-3)
    - i) While Christ may have been led by the Spirit into the wilderness it was the Devil that did the tempting
    - ii) Notice: The Devil himself is called the tempter (Matthew 4:3)
      - a) God allowed Job to be tempted by the Devil
      - b) However, it was the Devil doing the tempting
- B. What God Was Doing (Deuteronomy 29:10-12)
- i. The LORD wanted all of them (Deuteronomy 29:10-11; Deuteronomy 31:12-13)
    - 1. The captains
    - 2. Elders
    - 3. Officers
    - 4. Little ones
    - 5. Wives
    - 6. Stranger
  - ii. To enter into a covenant with the LORD thy (their) God (Deuteronomy 29:12)
- C. What God Would Do (Deuteronomy 29:13)
- i. To establish them for a people unto Himself
  - ii. To be a God unto them

#### IV. A COVENANT WITH ALL (Deuteronomy 29:14-15)

- A. This Covenant Involved (Deuteronomy 29:14-15; Deuteronomy 29:10-12)
  - i. Them
  - ii. Their children and
  - iii. The stranger among them
- B. Those that would be born (Deuteronomy 29:15)

#### V. TO POSSESS THE LAND AND KEEP THE COVENANT (Deuteronomy 29:16-28)

- A. To Remember What God Had Done (Deuteronomy 29:16-20)
  - i. How he had brought them out of Egypt
  - ii. How he had brought them through the wilderness

- iii. To the outskirts of the land
- B. To Keep Them From Sinning (Deuteronomy 29:18-28)
  - i. So that they might not sin against God (Deuteronomy 29:18-19)
    - 1. Going after the gods of the land
    - 2. The gods that had not helped their enemies
    - 3. Having a root of gall or wormwood (Jeremiah 9:15)
      - a. Definition: “*Gall*”
        - i) Something bitter
        - ii) Bitterness of spirit
        - iii) From Scripture:
          - a) Grapes of gall, clusters are bitter (Deuteronomy 32:32)
          - b) Water of gall...., and sin (Jeremiah 8:14; Jeremiah 9:15)
          - c) Travail and affliction associated with gall (Lamentations 3:5, 19)
          - d) The gall of bitterness (Acts 8:23)
      - b. Definition: “*Wormwood*”
        - i) Something bitter or grievous
        - ii) From Scripture:
          - a) Bitter as wormwood (Proverbs 5:4)
          - b) Filled with bitterness (Lamentations 3:15)
          - c) Waters became wormwood (Revelation 8:11)
      - c. Walking in the imagination of their own hearts
      - d. To add drunkenness to their thirst
    - ii. The LORD will not spare (Deuteronomy 29:20-28; Proverbs 6:34; Exodus 20:5; Psalm 78:58)
      - 1. The individual (v. 20-21)
        - a. All of the curses written will come upon him (Deuteronomy 29:20b; Deuteronomy 29:27; Deuteronomy 27:15-26; Deuteronomy 28:15-68)
        - b. His name to be blotted out from **under** heaven (Deuteronomy 29:20c; Deuteronomy 9:14; Deuteronomy 25:19)
      - 2. The land (v. 23, 27)
      - 3. The nation (v. 25-26, 28)
        - a. Because they have forsaken the covenant which they made with the LORD (Deuteronomy 29:25)
        - b. Because they have went and served other gods

### VI. TO KEEP ALL THAT GOD HAD GIVEN (Deuteronomy 29:29)

- A. The Secret Things of God (Deuteronomy 29:29a; Romans 11:33-34; Romans 16:25-26)
  - i. Belong unto God
  - ii. Not Revealed unless given by God
- B. The Things That Are Revealed (Deuteronomy 29:29b; Psalm 78:2-7)
  - i. Belong unto the ones receiving it
  - ii. And unto their children forever
    - 1. That they might hear it
    - 2. And do all that has been given unto them

### VII. THE DOCTRINE OF REVELATION (Deuteronomy 29:29; Amos 3:7) – (Note: In simple form, the word “*revelation*” means to “*remove the veil.*” Doctrinally it means the act of God by which He imparts knowledge to man which man could otherwise never know.)

- A. General Revelation
  - i. Means
    - 1. Circumstances; or, Providence (Romans 1:18)
      - a. In the rise and fall of nations (Deuteronomy 32:29-43; Psalm 75:6-7)
      - b. In the preservation of Israel (Jeremiah 31:35-37)
      - c. In His goodness to all men (Psalm 145:9; Matthew 5:45; Acts 14:17)
      - d. Knowledge that there is more (Jeremiah 29:13; Acts 17:27)
        - i) Grace *found* in the OT
        - ii) Grace *given* in the NT
    - 2. Conscience
      - a. Something in man telling him that there is a God (Romans 1:19)
      - b. Reveals the existence of right and wrong: convicting of sin and rewarding righteousness (Romans 2:14-15)
      - c. In different men may be weak (1 Corinthians 8:7), defiled (Titus 1:15) or seared (1 Timothy 4:2)
      - d. When kept pure, our conscience can be a helpful guide for living (Acts 23:1; Acts 24:16)
    - 3. Creation
      - a. The glory of God (Psalm 19:1-3)
      - b. The eternal power (Romans 1:20)
      - c. The Godhead (Romans 1:20; See Acts 17:29; Colossians 2:9)
  - ii. Message
    - 1. The existence of God
    - 2. The frailty of man
    - 3. The guilt of man

4. The judgment of God
5. Note: does not reveal God's plan of salvation and is therefore not sufficient for salvation.

B. Special Revelation

i. Means

1. The incarnation (Matthew 11:27; John 1:18; John 14:9-10)
  - a. The shadow—the law (Hebrews 10:1)
    - i) As a shadow it was temporary (Job 8:9; 14:2)
    - ii) It pointed to something else (Colossians 2:17)
    - iii) To reveal sin in its total sinfulness (Romans 3:20)
    - iv) To condemn the sinner (Romans 3:19; Romans 4:15)
    - v) To prepare the heart of the Israelites for the faith of Christ (Galatians 3:23-26)
  - b. The image—Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 4:4; Colossians 1:15; Hebrews 1:3)
    - i) An image gives us a representation of something we cannot see.
    - ii) As such Jesus Christ came to show us the Father (John 14:7, 9; John 15:24) and to reconcile us to the Father whom they cannot see (Colossians 1:5).
  - c. The sun—the glorified Christ
    - i) Christ purposely limited some things in His earthly ministry.
    - ii) When He returns we will see Him in His fullness.
2. Direct communication
  - a. Miracles
  - b. Visions (Ezekiel 1:1)
  - c. Dreams (Daniel 2:28)
  - d. Spoken words (Numbers 12:6-8)
3. The written word of God (John 5:39; Romans 16:25-26)

ii. Message

1. The identity of God
2. How things began
3. How things will end
4. The heart of man
5. The way of salvation

VIII. A WARNING OF CAPTIVITY (Deuteronomy 30:1-10)

- A. That It Would Take Place (Deuteronomy 30:1a)
  - i. Notice the wording of verse 1
    - 1. “*And it **shall** come to pass,*”
    - 2. “*when all these things **are** come upon thee*”
    - 3. “*whither the LORD thy God **hath** driven thee,*”
  - ii. It was a matter of when, not if
    - 1. The LORD knew that the people would not keep His word
    - 2. Historically they had not done well
      - a. The golden calf (Exodus 32)
      - b. The grumbings and murmurings of the people in the wilderness
      - c. The disobedience of taking the land (Numbers 13-14)
      - d. The rebellion of Korah (Numbers 16)
      - e. And etc.
- B. A Call To Return Unto the LORD (Deuteronomy 30:1b-10)
  - i. To the land that was promised (Deuteronomy 30:1b-5)
  - ii. To be blessed again (Deuteronomy 30:6-10)

IX. THE ACCESS OF THE WORD (Deuteronomy 30:11-14)

- A. Its Manifestation (Deuteronomy 30:11-13)
  - i. God had made His covenant(s) known to them
  - ii. God had made His law known to them
    - 1. God had given His law to them through Moses
    - 2. God had made His laws, rules, and commandments known to them through His holy prophets all through Israel’s existence in the land
    - 3. However, according to Stephen in Acts 7, they had persecuted and killed the prophets that God had sent them (prophets sent to warn them of their ways) (Acts 7:51-52)
- B. Its Nearness (Deuteronomy 30:14)
  - i. God (the Father) had sent His Son (the Word – Incarnate) to reveal to them the Father (John 1:1-3) – Future for the hearer in Deuteronomy.
  - ii. God has promised to write His word even in their hearts (Isaiah 51:7; see context), even a new covenant that He will make with them (Jeremiah 31:31-37) – Future for the hearer in Deuteronomy and for us today.

X. A TIME FOR CHOOSING (Deuteronomy 30:15-20)

A. Two Options Presented (Deuteronomy 30:15)

- i. Life and Death
- ii. Good and Evil

B. The Consequences of Both (Deuteronomy 30:16-28)

- i. How they could live and have good (Deuteronomy 30:16; John 14:21; 1 John 5:2-3)

1. The commandment

- a. To love the LORD thy (their) God
- b. To walk in His ways
- c. Keep His commandments
- d. His statutes
- e. His judgments

2. The outcome

- a. To live in the land
- b. To multiply
- c. To be blessed in the land

- ii. How they would die and see evil (Deuteronomy 30:17-18; 1 Kings 11:2)

1. The commandment

- a. If their heart turned away (notice the connection to “love” above)
- b. Worship other gods and serve them

2. The outcome

- a. They would surely perish
- b. Their days would not be prolonged on the land

C. The Plea (Deuteronomy 30:19-20; Joshua 24:15-22)

- i. Therefore choose life
- ii. For their good

1. To love the LORD

2. To obey His voice

3. To cleave unto Him

- a. He is their life
- b. Their length of days
- c. That they might dwell in the land