

Deuteronomy Outline(*)

I. Introduction: The Historical Setting of Moses' Speeches (1:1–4)

II. The First Address by Moses: A Historical Prologue (1:5–4:43)

- A Historical Review of God's Gracious Acts from Horeb to Beth Peor (1:5–3:29)
 - Moving on from Horeb (Sinai) onward to the promised land
 - Leaders appointed (1:9-18) as instructed by Moses
 - Israel's refusal to enter the Promised Land (1:19-33)
 - They would not go up even though the land was teeming with milk and honey
 - V.32 – “Yet in spite of this word, you did not believe the Lord”
 - Penalty for Israel's rebellion (1:34-46)
 - V.35 – “Not one of the men of this evil generation shall see the good land that I swore to your fathers”
 - The Wilderness Years (2:1-25)
 - They are to wander for forty years
 - They will go through Edom and Moab and they are not to contend with them
 - The defeat of King Sihon (2:26-37)
 - Took all their cities and devoted everything to destruction
 - The defeat of King Og (3:1-22)
 - Took all their cities and devoted everything to destruction
 - Distributed the land to various tribes of Israel (Reubenites, Gadites and Manasseh)
 - When it came time for war, they were to join the rest of Israel
 - Moses forbidden to Enter the Land (3:23-29)
 - Joshua chosen to lead the people into the Promised Land
- B. An Exhortation to Obey the Law (4:1–40)
 - Moses commands obedience (4:1-14)
 - V.6 – “Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nations is a wise and understanding people””
 - Idolatry forbidden (4:15-31)
 - V. 23-24 – “Take care, lest you forget the covenant of the Lord your God, which he made with you, and make a carved image, the form of anything that the Lord your God has forbidden you. For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God”
 - V. 27 – “And the Lord will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations where the Lord will drive you”
 - The LORD Alone is God (4:32-40)
 - V.35 – “To you it was shown, that you might know that the LORD is God; there is no other besides him”

- C. The Setting Apart of Three Cities of Refuge (4:41–43)
 - For those who have unintentionally killing another
 - Bezer (Reubenites), Ramoth (Gadites) and Golan (Manassites)

III. The Second Address by Moses: The Stipulations of the Sinaitic Covenant (4:44–28:68)

- Introduction (4:44–49)
 - A brief review of what God has done
- The Basic Elements of Israel’s Relationship with the Lord (5:1–11:32)
 - The Ten Commandments (5:1–33)
 - The total commitment to the Lord (6:1–25)
 - The Greatest Commandment
 - V.5 – “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart”
 - V. 16-17 – “You shall not put the LORD your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah. You shall diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God...”
 - Separation from the gods of other nations (7:1–26)
 - A Chosen People
 - V.6 – “For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.”
 - A warning against forgetting the Lord (8:1–20)
 - Remember the LORD your God
 - V.6 – “So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him.”
 - V.18 – “You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day
 - They will perish should they forget God
 - Illustrations of Israel’s rebellion in the past (9:1–10:11)
 - Not because of righteousness (9:1-12)
 - V.5 – “..but because of the wickedness of these nations the LORD your God is driving them out from before you, and that he may confirm the word that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”
 - The Golden Calf (9:13-29)
 - New Tablets of Stone (10:1-11)
 - An admonition to fear and love the Lord and obey His will (10:12–11:32)
 - Circumcise your heart (10:12-22)
 - V.12-13 – “And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart

and all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good”

- The Specific Stipulations for Life in the New Land (12:1–26:19)
 - Instructions for the life of worship (12:1–16:17)
 - The LORD’s chosen place of worship (12:1-28)
 - Warning against Idolatry (12:29-13:18)
 - Clean and Unclean food (14:1-21)
 - Part of the ceremonial law
 - Tithes (14:22-29)
 - Sabbatical Year (15:1-23)
 - End of the seventh year, you shall grant a release
 - Dealing with slaves
 - Passover (16:1-8)
 - The Feast of Weeks (16:9-12)
 - The Feast of Booths (16:13-17)
 - Instructions for leadership (16:18–18:22)
 - Justice (16:18-20)
 - Forbidden forms of worship (16:21-17:7)
 - Ox or sheep with defect
 - Legal Decisions by Priests and Judges (17:8-13)
 - Laws Concerning Israel’s Kings (17:14-20)
 - Provision for Priests and Levites (18:1-8)
 - Abominable Practices (18:9-14)
 - A New Prophet like Moses (18:15-22)
 - Instructions for societal order (19:1–23:14)
 - Laws Concerning cities of refuge (19:1-13)
 - Property Boundaries (19:14)
 - Laws Concerning witnesses (19:15-21)
 - Laws Concerning warfare (20)
 - Atonement for Unsolved Murders (21:1-9)
 - Marrying Female Captives (21:10-14)
 - Inheritance rights for the first born (21:15-17)
 - A rebellious son (21:18-21)
 - A man hanged on a tree is cursed (21:22-23)
 - The reference to Christ when he was crucified
 - Various laws (22:1-12)
 - Woman shall not wear man’s clothing and vice versa
 - Bird’s nest and eggs
 - Building a new house
 - Not sowing your vineyard with two kinds of seeds
 - Laws Concerning Sexual Immorality (22:13-30)
 - Those Excluded from the Assembly (23:1-8)
 - No Moabites or Ammonite
 - No one born of a forbidden union
 - Edomite and Egyptians are allowed
 - Uncleaness in the Camp (23:9-14)

- Instructions from miscellaneous laws (23:15–25:19)
 - Miscellaneous laws (23:15-25)
 - Laws Concerning divorce (24:1-4)
 - Miscellaneous laws (24:5-25:4)
 - Laws Concerning Levirate Marriage (25:5-10)
 - Miscellaneous laws (25:11-19)
- The firstfruits and tithes in the land (26:1–15)
- The affirmation of obedience (26:16–19)
- The Blessings and Curses of the Covenant (27:1–28:68)
 - Altar at Mount Ebal (27:1-8)
 - Writing of the law on the altar to sacrifice burnt offerings
 - Curses at Mount Ebal (27:9-26)
 - Blessings for Obedience (28:1-14)
 - Curses for Disobedience (28:15-68)

IV. The Third Address by Moses: Another Covenant (29:1–30:20)

- **The Covenant Renewed at Moab (29)**
- **Repentance and Forgiveness (30:1-10)**
- **The Choice of Life and Death (30:11-20)**

V. The Concluding Events (31:1–34:12)

- The Change of Leadership (31:1–8)
- The Future Reading of the Law (31:9–13)
 - Reading every seven years, at set time in the year of release, at the Feast of Booths
- The Song of Moses (31:14–32:47)
 - The anticipation of Israel’s failure (31:14–29)
 - When Moses finished writing the Book of the Law, the Levites were commanded to have it by the side of the ark of the covenant as a witness against the Israelites
 - The witness of Moses’ song (31:30–32:43)
 - The communicating of Moses’ song (32:44–47)
- The Final Events of Moses’ Life (32:48–34:12)
 - The directives for Moses’ death (32:48–52)
 - The blessing of Moses (33:1–29)
 - To Reuben
 - To Judah
 - To Levi
 - To Benjamin
 - To Joseph
 - To Zebulun
 - To Gad
 - To Dan
 - To Naphtali

- To Asher
- The death of Moses (34:1–12)

Major Themes

- The Spirit of the Law

| Table 4 | | |
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| Deuteronomy as Exposition of the Decalogue | | |
| Adapted from Walton (1987) | | |
| ISSUES | RE: GOD | RE: MAN |
| Authority | Commandment 1 5:7 (chaps. 6–11) | Commandment 5 5:16 (16:18–17:13) |
| Dignity (19:1–24:7) | Commandment 2 5:8–10 (12:1–32) | Commandments 6–8 5:17–19 6th: 19:1–21:23 7th: 22:1–23:14 8th: 23:15–24:7 |
| Commitment | Commandment 3 5:11 (13:1–14:21) | Commandment 9 5:20 (24:8–16) |
| Rights and Privileges | Commandment 4 5:12–15 (14:22–16:17) | Commandment 10 5:21 (24:17–26:15) |

- Implications in the New Testament