**The Book of Deuteronomy**

**Deuteronomy Chapter 1**

The Command to Leave Horeb

1These are the words that Moses spoke to all Israel beyond the Jordan in the wilderness, in the Arabah over against Suph between Paran and Tophel, and Laban and Hazeroth, and Dizahab. 2It is 11 days’ journey from Horeb by the way of Mount Seir to Kadesh-barnea. 3Now in the fortieth year, in the eleventh month, on the first day of the month, Moses spoke to the children of Israel according to all that Yahweh had commanded him *to say* to them, 4after he had defeated Sihon the king of the Amorites who lived in Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan who lived in Ashtaroth at Edrei. 5Beyond the Jordan, in the land of Moab, Moses began to declare this law, saying,

6“Yahweh our God spoke to us at Horeb, saying, ‘You have stayed long enough at this mountain; 7turn and take your journey, and go to the hill country of the Amorites and to all the places near there, in the Arabah, in the hill country and in the Shephelah, and in the Negev and by the seashore, the land of the Canaanites, and Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates. 8Behold, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land that Yahweh swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob, to give to them and to their seed after them.’

The Appointment of Leaders

9“I spoke to you at that time, saying, ‘I am not able to carry you myself alone; 10Yahweh your God has multiplied you, and behold, you are this day as the stars of heaven for multitude. 11Yahweh, the God of your fathers, make you 1,000 times as many as you are, and bless you as he has promised you! 12How can I carry your weight and your burden and your strife by myself alone? 13Take wise men of understanding and well-known according to your tribes, and I will make them heads over you.’

14“You answered me and said, ‘The thing that you have spoken is good to do.’

15“So I took the heads of your tribes, wise men, and known, and made them heads over you, leaders of thousands and leaders of hundreds and leaders of fifties and leaders of tens, and officers according to your tribes. 16I commanded your judges at that time, saying, ‘Hear cases between your brothers and judge righteously between a man and his brother, and the foreigner who is living with him. 17You are not to show partiality in judgment; you are to hear the small and the great alike. You are not to be afraid of the face of man, for the judgment is God’s. The case that is too hard for you, you are to bring to me, and I will hear it.’ 18I commanded you at that time all the things that you were to do.

Israel's Refusal to Enter the Land

19“We traveled from Horeb and went through all that great and terrible wilderness that you saw on the way to the hill country of the Amorites, as Yahweh our God commanded us; and we came to Kadesh-barnea. 20I said to you, ‘You have come to the hill country of the Amorites that Yahweh our God is giving to us. 21Behold, Yahweh your God has set the land before you. Go up, take possession *of it* as Yahweh the God of your fathers has spoken to you. Do not be afraid or dismayed.’

22“You came near to me, every one of you, and said, ‘Let us send men ahead of us so that they can spy out the land for us and bring us back word of the route by which we are to go up and the cities to which we will come.’ 23The thing pleased me well, and I took 12 men of you, one man for every tribe, 24and they turned and went up into the hill country and came to the valley of Eshcol and spied it out. 25They took of the fruit of the land in their hands and brought it down to us, and brought us back word and said, ‘It is a good land that Yahweh our God gives to us.’

26“Yet you would not go up, but rebelled against the commandment of Yahweh your God, 27and you murmured in your tents and said, ‘Because Yahweh hated us, he has brought us out of the land of Egypt to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us. 28Where can we go up? Our brothers have made our hearts to melt, saying, “The people are stronger and taller than we; the cities are great and fortified up to heaven, and moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakim there.”’

29“Then I said to you, ‘Do not be terrified or be afraid of them. 30Yahweh your God who goes before you, he will fight for you just as he did for you in Egypt before your eyes, 31and in the wilderness where you have seen how that Yahweh your God carried you, as a man carries his son, in all the ways that you went until you came to this place.’ 32Yet in spite of this you did not believe Yahweh your God 33who went before you on the way to seek out a place for you to pitch your tents in, *going* in fire by night to show you by what way you should go, and *going* in the cloud by day.

The Penalty for Israel's Rebellion

34“Yahweh heard the voice of your words and was angry, and swore, saying, 35‘Surely not one of these men of this evil generation will see the good land that I swore to give to your fathers 36except Caleb the son of Jephunneh; he will see it, and I will give to him the land that he has set his feet on, and to his children, because he has fully *followed* after Yahweh.’

37“Also Yahweh was angry with me for your sakes, saying, ‘You also will not go in there; 38Joshua the son of Nun, who stands before you, he will go in there. Encourage him, for he will cause Israel to inherit it. 39Moreover your little ones, whom you said would be a prey, and your children, who this day have no knowledge of good or evil, they will go in there, and I will give it to them, and they will possess it. 40But as for you, turn and journey into the wilderness by the road to the Red Sea.’

41“Then you answered and said to me, ‘We have sinned against Yahweh; we will go up and fight according to all that Yahweh our God commanded us.’ Every man of you put on his weapons of war and thought it easy to go up into the hill country.

42“Yahweh said to me, ‘Tell them, Do not go up and do not fight, for I am not among you to keep you from being defeated before your enemies.’ 43So I spoke to you but you did not listen. Instead, you rebelled against the commandment of Yahweh and were presumptuous, and went up into the hill country. 44But the Amorites who lived in that hill country came out against you, and chased you as bees do, and beat you down in Seir, even to Hormah. 45You returned and wept before Yahweh, but Yahweh did not listen to your voice nor gave ear to you. 46So you stayed in Kadesh many days, all the days that you remained *there*.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 2**

Wanderings in the Wilderness

1“Then we turned and took our journey into the wilderness by the road to the Red Sea, as Yahweh spoke to me; and we circled around the hill country of Seir many days. 2Yahweh spoke to me, saying, 3‘You have gone around this hill country long enough. Turn northward. 4Command the people, saying, “You are to pass through the territory of your brothers the children of Esau who live in Seir, and they will be afraid of you, but be very careful, 5do not provoke them to war, for I will not give you of their land, no, not so much as for the sole of the foot to tread on, because I have given the hill country of Seir to Esau for a possession. 6You may purchase food from them with your money so that you can eat; and you may also buy water from them for money so that you may drink. 7For Yahweh your God has blessed you in all the work of your hand; he has known your walking through this great wilderness. These 40 years Yahweh your God has been with you, *and* you have lacked nothing.”’

8“So we passed beyond our brothers the children of Esau who live in Seir, away from the Arabah Road *that comes* from Elath and from Ezion-geber. We turned and passed through by the Road of the Wilderness of Moab. 9Yahweh said to me, ‘Do not harass Moab, nor provoke them to war, for I will not give you any of his land for a possession because I have given Ar to the children of Lot for a possession.’”

10(The Emim lived in it before, a people as great and numerous and as tall as the Anakim. 11Like the Anakim, they also are regarded as Rephaim, but the Moabites call them Emim. 12The Horites also lived in Seir before, but the children of Esau drove them out, and they destroyed them from before them and lived in their place, just as Israel did in the land of their possession that Yahweh gave to them).

13“‘Now rise up and cross over the brook Zered.’ So we went over the brook Zered. 14The days in which we came from Kadesh-barnea until we had crossed over the brook Zered were 38 years, until all the generation of the men of war had perished from the midst of the camp as Yahweh swore to them. 15Indeed, the hand of Yahweh had been against them to destroy them from the midst of the camp until they had all perished.

16“So when all the men of war had been consumed and were dead from among the people, 17Yahweh spoke to me, saying, 18‘Today you are to pass over Ar, the border of Moab, 19and when you approach *the territory of* the children of Ammon, do not bother them nor fight with them; for I will not give you *any* of the land of the children of Ammon for a possession because I have given it to the children of Lot for a possession.’”

20That also is accounted a land of Rephaim. Rephaim lived in it before, but the Ammonites call them Zamzummim, 21a people great and many and tall, as the Anakim; but Yahweh destroyed them before them, and they succeeded them and lived in their place; 22as he did for the children of Esau who dwell in Seir, when he destroyed the Horites from before them and they drove them out and lived in their place even to this day; 23and the Avvim who lived in villages as far as Gaza, the Caphtorim who came from Caphtor destroyed them and lived in their place.

Defeat of Sihon King of Heshbon

24“‘Rise up, move out and cross over the Arnon Valley; behold, I have given into your hand Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land; begin to possess it, and stir yourself up against him in battle. 25This *very* day I will begin to put the dread of you and the fear of you on the faces of the peoples who are under the whole heavens who will hear the report of you, and they will tremble and be in anguish because of you.’

26“I sent messengers out of the wilderness of Kedemoth to Sihon king of Heshbon with words of peace, saying, 27‘Let me cross through your land. I will go along by the highway, I will not turn to the right hand or to the left. 28You can sell me food *in exchange* for silver, so that I can eat, and give me water for silver, so that I can drink; just let me cross through on my feet, 29just as the children of Esau who live in Seir and the Moabites who live in Ar did for me, until I have crossed over the Jordan into the land that Yahweh our God is giving us.’ 30But Sihon king of Heshbon would not let us cross through his *territory*, for Yahweh your God hardened his spirit and made his heart obstinate, in order to give him into your hand as it is this very day.

31“And Yahweh said to me, ‘Behold, I have begun to give over Sihon and his land before you; begin to possess it so that you inherit his land.’ 32Then Sihon came out against us, he and all his people, to battle at Jahaz, 33but Yahweh our God gave him over before us, and we struck him and his sons and all his people. 34We captured all his cities at that time and devoted to destruction every inhabited city, including the women and the little ones; we left none remaining, 35only the livestock we took for a prey to ourselves with the spoil of the cities that we had taken. 36From Aroer, which is on the edge of the valley of the Arnon and the city that is in the valley, even to Gilead, there was not a city too high for us; Yahweh our God gave over all of them before us. 37Only to the land of the children of Ammon you did not come near; all the side of the river Jabbok and the cities of the hill country and wherever Yahweh our God forbade us.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 3**

Defeat of Og King of Bashan

1“Then we turned and went up the road to Bashan, and Og the king of Bashan came out against us, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei. 2Yahweh said to me, ‘Do not be afraid of him, for I have given him and all his people and his land into your hand; and you will do to him as you did to Sihon king of the Amorites who lived at Heshbon.’ 3So Yahweh our God gave Og, the king of Bashan, into our hand also, and all his people; and we struck him down until no survivor was left to him. 4And we captured all his cities at that time; there was not a city that we did not take from them, 60 cities, the whole region of Argob, the kingdom of Og in Bashan. 5All these were cities fortified with high walls, gates, and bars, besides a great many unwalled villages. 6We utterly destroyed them as we did to Sihon king of Heshbon, utterly destroying every inhabited city; the men, the women and the children. 7But all the livestock and the spoil of the cities we took as plunder for ourselves.

8“We took the land at that time out of the hand of the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, from the valley of the Arnon to Mount Hermon. 9(The Sidonians call *Mount* Hermon Sirion, and the Amorites call it Senir.) 10We took all the cities of the plain, and all Gilead and all Bashan to Salecah and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan. 11(For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of the Rephaim; behold, his bed was a bed of iron; is it not *still* in Rabbah of the children of Ammon? Nine cubits was its length and four cubits its width,[[1]](#footnote-13110) according to the cubit of a man.)

Division of the Land

12“So we took possession of this land at that time, and I gave to the Reubenites and to the Gadites from Aroer, which is by the valley of the Arnon, and half the hill country of Gilead and its cities. 13And the rest of Gilead and all Bashan, the kingdom of Og, I gave to the half-tribe of Manasseh. (All the region of Argob, even all Bashan used to be called the land of Rephaim. 14Jair the son of Manasseh took all the region of Argo as far as the border of the Geshurites and the Maacathites, *that is* Bashan, and named them after his own name, Havvoth-jair, to this day.) 15I gave Gilead to Machir. 16To the Reubenites and to the Gadites I gave from Gilead to the Arnon Gorge, the middle of the gorge, and its border as far over as the Jabbok River, which is the border of the children of Ammon; 17the Arabah also and the Jordan *River* as its border, from *the Sea of* Chinneroth[[2]](#footnote-27663) even to the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea,[[3]](#footnote-28755) below the slopes of Pisgah on the east.

18“I commanded you at that time, saying, ‘Yahweh your God has given you this land to possess it; *but* you are to cross over *the Jordan* armed before your brothers the children of Israel, all the men of valor. 19But your wives and your little ones and your livestock (I know that you have much livestock) will live in your cities that I have given to you 20until Yahweh gives rest to your brothers as to you, and they also possess the land that Yahweh your God gives them beyond the Jordan, then you may return every man to his possession that I have given to you.’

Moses Forbidden to Cross the Jordan

21“I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, ‘Your eyes have seen all that Yahweh your God has done to these two kings. Yahweh will do the same to all the kingdoms into which you are about to cross. 22You are not to be afraid of them, for Yahweh your God, he it is who fights for you.’

23“I begged Yahweh at that time, saying, 24‘Lord Yahweh, you have begun to show your servant your greatness and your strong hand, for what god is there in heaven or on earth that can do according to your works and according to your mighty acts? 25Please let me go over and see the good land that is beyond the Jordan, that good hill country, and Lebanon.’

Joshua is Commissioned

26“But Yahweh was angry with me because of you, and would not listen to me. And Yahweh said to me, ‘Enough from you. Do not speak to me any more about this matter. 27Go up to the top of Pisgah and lift up your eyes westward, and northward, and southward, and eastward, and look at it with your eyes, for you will not cross over this Jordan. 28But commission Joshua, and encourage him and strengthen him; for he will cross over before this people and he will cause them to inherit the land that you will see.’ 29So we stayed in the valley opposite Beth-peor.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 4**

Obedience Commanded

1“Now, Israel, listen to the statutes and to the ordinances that I am teaching you, and do them, so that you can live and go in and possess the land that Yahweh, the God of your fathers, gives you. 2You must not add to the word that I command you, nor are you to take away from it, so that you can keep the commandments of Yahweh your God that I command you. 3Your eyes have seen what Yahweh did because of Baal-peor; for all the men who followed Baal-peor, Yahweh your God has destroyed them from the midst of you. 4But you who were faithful to Yahweh your God are all alive this day. 5Behold, I have taught you statutes and ordinances, just as Yahweh my God commanded me, that you are to do them in the midst of the land that you are entering to take possession of it. 6So keep and do *them*, for this will be your wisdom and your understanding in the eyes of the peoples who will hear all these statutes and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ 7For what great nation is there that has a god so near to them as Yahweh our God is whenever we call on him? 8What great nation is there that has statutes and ordinances so righteous as all this law that I set before you this day?

9“Only take care of yourself and watch over your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. And make them known to your children and your children’s children. 10*Remember* the day that you stood before Yahweh your God in Horeb, when Yahweh said to me, ‘Assemble the people before me and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children.’ 11You came near and stood at the foot of the mountain, and the mountain burned with fire to the heart of heaven, along with darkness, cloud, and thick darkness. 12And Yahweh spoke to you out of the midst of the fire; you heard the sound of words, but you saw no form, you only heard a voice. 13He declared to you his covenant that he commanded you to perform, even the ten commandments, and he wrote them on two tablets of stone. 14Yahweh commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and ordinances that you are to follow in the land where you are going over to possess it.

Idolatry Forbidden

15“Therefore watch yourselves very carefully, for you saw no kind of form on the day that Yahweh spoke to you in Horeb out of the middle of the fire, 16lest you corrupt yourselves and make yourself a carved image in the form of any figure, the likeness of a male or a female, 17the likeness of any animal that is on the earth, the likeness of any winged bird that flies in the heavens, 18the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground, the likeness of any fish that is in the water under the earth; 19and lest you lift up your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun and the moon and the stars, all the army of heaven, you are drawn away and bow down to them[[4]](#footnote-14933) and serve them, which Yahweh your God has allotted to all the peoples under the whole heavens. 20But Yahweh has taken you and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, out of Egypt, to be to him a people of his own inheritance even this very day.

21“Furthermore, Yahweh was angry with me because of you and swore that I would not go over the Jordan and that I would not go into that good land that Yahweh your God is giving you for an inheritance, 22but I must die in this land, I must not go over the Jordan, but you will go over and possess that good land. 23Watch yourselves, lest you forget the covenant of Yahweh your God that he made with you and you make for yourselves an engraved image in the form of anything that Yahweh your God has forbidden you. 24For Yahweh your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

25“When you father children, and children’s children, and you have been in the land a long time and you corrupt yourselves and make a carved image in the form of anything, and you do what is evil in the eyes of Yahweh your God, making him angry, 26I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day that you will perish, yes, perish quickly from off the land into which you will go over the Jordan to possess; you will not prolong your days on it but will be destroyed, yes, destroyed! 27Yahweh will scatter you among the peoples and you will be left few in number among the nations into which Yahweh will drive you. 28There you will serve gods, the work of men’s hands, wood and stone which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell. 29But from there you will seek Yahweh your God, and you will find him if you search for him with all your heart and with all your soul. 30When you are in oppression and all these things have come on you, in the latter days you will return to Yahweh your God and will listen to his voice, 31for Yahweh your God is a merciful God; he will not fail you, nor destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers that he swore to them.

Yahweh Alone is God

32“For ask now about the days that are past, which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth and from the one end of the heavens to the other; has there been anything like this great thing is or has *anything* like it been heard? 33Did a people ever hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire as you have heard, and live? 34Or has God tried to go and take a nation for himself from the midst of another nation by trials, by signs and by wonders, and by war and by a mighty hand, and by an outstretched arm and by great terrors, according to all that Yahweh your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes? 35It was shown to you so that you might know that Yahweh is God. There is no one else besides him. 36Out of heaven he made you to hear his voice so that he might instruct you, and *here* on earth he made you to see his great fire and you heard his words out of the midst of the fire. 37Because he loved your fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them and brought you out with his presence, with his great power, out of Egypt, 38to drive out nations from before you greater and mightier than you, to bring you in, to give you their land for an inheritance even this very day. 39Know therefore today, and lay it up in your heart, that Yahweh, he is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other. 40You are to keep his statutes and his commandments that I command you this day so that it will go well with you and with your children after you, and so that you will prolong your days in the land that Yahweh your God is giving you for all time.”

Cities of Refuge

41Then Moses set apart three cities beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise 42so that the killer who kills his neighbor unintentionally but did not previously hate him could flee there, and that by fleeing to one of those cities he would live: 43*the city of Bezer* in the wilderness on the tableland for the Reubenites, and *the city of* Ramoth in Gilead for the Gadites; and *the city of* Golan in Bashan for the Manassites.

Introduction to the Law

44This is the law that Moses set before the children of Israel; 45these are the testimonies and the statutes and the ordinances that Moses spoke to the children of Israel when they came out of Egypt, 46beyond the Jordan, in the valley opposite Beth-peor, in the land of Sihon king of the Amorites who lived at Heshbon, whom Moses and the children of Israel struck down when they came out of Egypt. 47They took his land as a possession, and the land of Og king of Bashan, the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise; 48from Aroer, which is on the edge of the Arnon Gorge, even to Mount Sion (which is *Mount* Hermon) 49and all the Arabah beyond the Jordan eastward, even to the sea of the Arabah at the foot of the slopes of Pisgah.

**Deuteronomy Chapter 5**

The Ten Commandments

1Moses called to all Israel and said to them, “Hear, O Israel, the statutes and the ordinances that I speak in your ears this day, so that you may learn them and be careful to do them. 2Yahweh our God cut a covenant with us in Horeb. 3Yahweh did not make this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us who are all of us here alive this day. 4Yahweh spoke with you face to face on the mountain out of the midst of the fire, 5(I stood between Yahweh and you at that time to show you the word of Yahweh, because you were afraid because of the fire and did not go up onto the mountain), saying,

6‘I am Yahweh your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery,

7you must not have any other gods besides me.

8‘Do not make for yourself a carved image, or any image of anything that is in the heavens above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; 9do not bow down to them[[5]](#footnote-21807) and do not serve them, for I, Yahweh your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, even on the third and on the fourth *generation* of those who hate me, 10and showing covenant faithfulness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

11‘Do not misuse the name of Yahweh your God, for Yahweh will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

12‘Observe the Sabbath day to keep it holy, as Yahweh your God commanded you. 13You are to work six days and do all your work, 14but the seventh day is a Sabbath to Yahweh your God in which you must not do any work, *not* you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your ox, nor your donkey, nor any of your livestock, nor your stranger who is inside your gates, so that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. 15You are to remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt and Yahweh your God brought you out of there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore Yahweh your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

16‘Honor your father and your mother as Yahweh your God commanded you, so that your days may be long, and so that it may go well with you in the land that Yahweh your God is giving you.

17‘Do not murder.

18‘Do not commit adultery.

19‘Do not steal.

20‘Do not give false testimony against your neighbor.

21‘Do not covet your neighbor’s wife, and do not covet your neighbor’s house, his field or his male servant, or his female servant, his ox or his donkey or anything that is your neighbor’s.’

The People’s Response

22“These words Yahweh spoke to all your assembly on the mountain out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a loud voice; and he added no more. And he wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me. 23And when you heard the voice out of the midst of the darkness while the mountain was burning with fire, you came near to me, even all the heads of your tribes, and your elders, 24and you said, ‘Behold, Yahweh our God has shown us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire; today we have seen God speak with a person and yet they *continue to* live. 25But now why should we die? For this great fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of Yahweh our God any more, then we will die. 26For who is there of all flesh that has heard the voice of the living God speaking out of the midst of the fire as we have, and lived? 27Go near and listen to all that Yahweh our God says, and tell us all that Yahweh our God tells you; and we will listen to it and do it.’

28“Yahweh heard the sound of your words when you spoke to me, and Yahweh said to me, ‘I have heard the sound of the words of this people that they have spoken to you; they have well said all that they have spoken. 29Oh that they had such a heart in them that they would fear me and keep all my commandments always, so that it would be well with them and with their children forever! 30Go tell them, “Return to your tents.” 31But as for you, stand here by me and I will tell you all the commandments and the statutes and the ordinances that you are to teach them, so that they may do them in the land that I am giving them to possess.’

32“So you are to be careful to do as Yahweh your God has commanded you; you are not to turn aside to the right hand or to the left. 33You are to walk in all the ways that Yahweh your God has commanded you so that you will live, and so that it will be well with you, and so that you will prolong your days in the land that you are going to possess.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 6**

The Greatest Commandment

1“Now these are the commandments—the statutes and the ordinances—that Yahweh your God commanded me to teach you. You are to obey them in the land to which you are crossing over to possess, 2so that you will fear Yahweh your God by keeping all his statutes and his commandments that I command you, you and your son and your son’s son, all the days of your life, and so that your days may be prolonged. 3Hear therefore, Israel, and be careful to do them, so that it will be well with you and so that you will increase greatly just as Yahweh, the God of your fathers, has promised to you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

4“Hear, O Israel! Yahweh is our God, Yahweh alone! 5Therefore you are to love Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6These words that I command you this day are to be in your heart, 7and you are to repeat them *over and over* to your children and are to talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, and when you lie down and when you rise up. 8You are to bind them for a sign on your hand, and they are to be for symbols between your eyes. 9You are to write them on the door posts of your house and on your gates.

Remembering Yahweh through Obedience

10“And when Yahweh your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers—to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob—that he would give you, large and splendid cities that you did not build, 11and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns dug out that you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant, and you eat and are full, 12then be careful not to forget Yahweh who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 13You are to fear Yahweh your God, and you are to serve him and are to swear by his name. 14Do not go after other gods, any gods of the peoples who are around you, 15for Yahweh your God in the midst of you is a jealous God; lest the anger of Yahweh your God be kindled against you and he destroy you from off the face of the earth. 16Do not tempt Yahweh your God as you tempted him in Massah. 17You are to diligently keep the commandments of Yahweh your God, and his testimonies and his statutes that he has commanded you. 18You are to do what is right and good in the eyes of Yahweh so that it may be well with you and so that you may go in and possess the good land that Yahweh swore to your fathers 19by thrusting out all your enemies from before you as Yahweh has spoken.

20“When your son asks you in time to come, saying, ‘What do the testimonies, the statutes and the ordinances that Yahweh our God has commanded you mean?’ 21then you are to tell your son, ‘We were Pharaoh’s slaves in Egypt and Yahweh brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand, 22and before our eyes Yahweh showed great and awesome signs and wonders on Egypt, on Pharaoh and on all his house; 23and he brought us out from there in order to bring us in, to give us the land that he had sworn to *give to* our fathers. 24Yahweh commanded us to obey all these statutes, to fear Yahweh our God for our well-being always, and so that he can keep us alive, even as it is this day. 25And it will be our righteousness if we are careful to obey every one of these commandments before Yahweh our God, as he has commanded us.’”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 7**

Israel to Destroy the Inhabitants of the Land

1“When Yahweh your God brings you into the land that you are entering to take possession of it, and he clears away many nations from your presence, the Hittite and the Girgashite and the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite, seven nations greater and mightier than you, 2and when Yahweh your God delivers them up before you and you strike them, then you must devote them to complete destruction; you must not make a covenant with them or show mercy to them, 3nor are you to intermarry with them. You are not to give your daughter to his son, nor are you to take his daughter for your son, 4for they will turn away your sons from following me so that they serve other gods. Then the anger of Yahweh will be kindled against you and he will destroy you quickly. 5But you are to deal with them like this: you are to break down their altars and dash their standing-stones in pieces and cut down their Asherah poles and burn their carved images with fire. 6For you are a holy people to Yahweh your God; Yahweh your God has chosen you to be a people for his own possession out of all peoples who are on the face of the earth.

7“Yahweh did not set his love on you and choose you because you were more in number than any *other* people, because you were the fewest of all peoples; 8but it is because Yahweh loves you and because he is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers that Yahweh has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you out of the house of slavery from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. 9Know therefore that Yahweh your God, he is God, the faithful God who keeps his covenant and covenant faithfulness to 1,000 generations of those who love him and keep his commandments, 10and repays those who hate him to their face by destroying them; he will not delay with him who hates him, he will repay him to his face. 11You are to therefore keep the commandment and the statutes and the ordinances that I command you this day to do them.

12“It will happen, because you listen to these ordinances and keep and do them, that Yahweh your God will keep with you the covenant and the covenant faithfulness that he swore to your fathers, 13and he will love you and bless you and multiply you; he will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your new wine and your oil, the increase of your livestock and the young of your flock in the land that he swore to your fathers to give you. 14You will be blessed above all peoples; there will not be a male or female that is barren among you or among your livestock. 15Yahweh will take away from you all sickness, and none of the evil diseases of Egypt that you know will he put on you, but will lay them on all those who hate you. 16You must consume all the peoples whom Yahweh your God will deliver to you; your eye must not pity them, nor are you to serve their gods, for that will be a snare to you.

17“If you say in your heart, ‘These nations are more than I; how can I dispossess them?’ 18you are not to be afraid of them; you must well remember what Yahweh your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt, 19the great trials that your eyes saw, and the signs and the wonders and the mighty hand and the outstretched arm by which Yahweh your God brought you out; so will Yahweh your God do to all the peoples of whom you are afraid. 20Moreover Yahweh your God will send the hornet among them, until those who are left and hide themselves perish from before you. 21You are not to be scared of them, for Yahweh your God is in the midst of you, a great and awesome God. 22Yahweh your God will cast out those nations before you by little and little; you will not be able to destroy them all at once, lest the animals of the field increase on you. 23But Yahweh your God will deliver them up before you and will confuse them with a great confusion until they are destroyed. 24He will deliver their kings into your hand and you will make their name to perish from under heaven: no man will be able to stand before you until you have destroyed them. 25You must burn the carved images of their gods with fire. You are not to covet the silver or the gold that is on them, nor take it for yourself, lest you be snared in it; for it is an abomination to Yahweh your God. 26You must not bring an abomination into your house; you would become like it—a thing devoted *to destruction*. You are to detest, yes, detest it, *and* you are to abhor, yes, abhor it, for it is devoted *to destruction*.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 8**

Remember Yahweh Your God

1“You are to be careful to do every commandment that I command you this day so that you may live and multiply and go in and possess the land that Yahweh swore to your fathers. 2You are to remember all the way that Yahweh your God has led you these 40 years in the wilderness to humble you and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. 3He humbled you and allowed you to be hungry, and fed you with manna (which you did not know, nor did your fathers know), that he might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes out of the mouth of Yahweh. 4Your clothing did not grow old on you and your feet did not swell these 40 years. 5You are to consider in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so Yahweh your God disciplines you. 6You are to keep the commandments of Yahweh your God, to walk in his ways and to fear him. 7For Yahweh your God will bring you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of springs and underground water flowing into valleys and hills, 8a land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranates; a land of olive trees and honey; 9a land where you will eat bread without shortage, and you will not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills you will dig copper. 10You will eat and be full and you will bless Yahweh your God for the good land that he has given to you.

11“Be careful that you do not forget Yahweh your God by failing to keep his commandments and his ordinances and his statutes that I command you this day. 12Otherwise, when you have eaten and are full and have built fine houses and lived in them, 13and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold has multiplied and all that you have has multiplied, 14then your heart becomes lifted up and you forget Yahweh your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; 15who led you through the vast and terrifying wilderness with fiery snakes and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water, who brought you water out of the rock of flint, 16who fed you in the wilderness with manna that your fathers did not know; that he might humble you and that he might test you, to do you good at your latter end; 17and lest you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand has gotten me this wealth.’ 18But you are to remember Yahweh your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth; that he may establish his covenant that he swore to your fathers even this very day. 19And if you forget Yahweh your God and walk after other gods and serve them, and bow down to them,[[6]](#footnote-22457) I testify against you this day that you will surely perish. 20Like the nations that Yahweh is about to destroy before you, so you will perish because you would not listen to the voice of Yahweh your God.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 9**

Not Because of Israel’s Righteousness

1“Hear, O Israel! Today you are to cross over the Jordan to go in to dispossess nations greater and mightier than you, *who have* cities *that are* large and fortified up to heaven. 2The people are great and tall, the sons of the Anakim whom you know and about whom you have heard it said, ‘Who can stand up against the sons of Anak?’ 3Know therefore this day that Yahweh your God is he who goes over before you as a devouring fire; he will destroy them and he will bring them down before you so you will drive them out and make them to perish quickly as Yahweh has spoken to you. 4After Yahweh your God has thrust them out from before you, do not say in your heart, ‘Because of my righteousness Yahweh has brought me in to possess this land,’ because Yahweh drives them out before you because of the wickedness of these nations. 5You are not going in to possess their land because of your righteousness or because of the uprightness of your heart, but because of the wickedness of these nations Yahweh your God is driving them out from before you, and so that he may establish the word that Yahweh swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. 6Know therefore that Yahweh your God is not giving you this good land to possess it because of your righteousness, for you are a stiff-necked people.

Israel’s Rebellion and Moses’ Intercession

7“Remember, do not forget, how you infuriated Yahweh your God in the wilderness. From the day that you left the land of Egypt until you came to this place, you have been rebellious against Yahweh. 8Also in Horeb you infuriated Yahweh, and Yahweh was angry enough with you to destroy you. 9When I had gone up onto the mountain to receive the tablets of stone, even the tablets of the covenant that Yahweh made with you, then I stayed on the mountain 40 days and 40 nights; I neither ate bread nor drank water. 10Yahweh gave to me the two tablets of stone written with the finger of God, and on them were all the words that Yahweh spoke with you on the mountain out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly. 11And it came to pass at the end of 40 days and 40 nights that Yahweh gave me the two tablets of stone, even the tablets of the covenant.

12“Then Yahweh said to me, ‘Arise, get down quickly from here, for your people whom you have brought out of Egypt have corrupted themselves; they have quickly turned aside out of the way that I commanded them; they have made a cast *metal* image for themselves.’ 13Furthermore Yahweh spoke to me, saying, ‘I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. 14Let me alone and I will destroy them and blot out their name from under heaven, and I will make of you a nation mightier and greater than they.’

15“So I turned and came down from the mountain, and the mountain was burning with fire, and the two tablets of the covenant were in my two hands. 16I looked, and behold, you had sinned against Yahweh your God. You had made yourselves a cast metal calf. You had turned aside quickly out of the way that Yahweh had commanded you. 17I took hold of the two tablets and threw them out of my two hands and broke them before your eyes. 18I fell down before Yahweh as at the first, 40 days and 40 nights. I did not eat bread or drink water because of all your sin that you sinned, in doing what was evil in the eyes of Yahweh *and* making him angry. 19For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure with which Yahweh was angry against you to destroy you. But Yahweh listened to me that time also. 20And Yahweh was very angry with Aaron to destroy him, and I prayed for Aaron also at the same time. 21I took your sin, the calf that you had made, and burned it with fire and stamped it, grinding it very small until it was as fine as dust, and I cast its dust into the brook that descended out of the mountain.

22“And at Taberah and at Massah and at Kibroth-hattaavah you made Yahweh angry. 23When Yahweh sent you from Kadesh-barnea, saying, ‘Go up and possess the land that I have given to you,’ then you rebelled against the commandment of Yahweh your God, and you did not believe him or listen to his voice. 24You have been rebellious against Yahweh from the day that I knew you.

25“So I fell down before Yahweh the 40 days and 40 nights, and I fell down because Yahweh had said he would destroy you. 26And I prayed to Yahweh, and said,

‘Lord Yahweh, do not destroy your people and your inheritance that you have redeemed through your greatness, that you have brought out of Egypt with a mighty hand. 27Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; do not look at the stubbornness of this people, nor at their wickedness, nor at their sin, 28lest the land that you brought us out of say, “Because Yahweh was not able to bring them into the land that he promised to them and because he hated them, he has brought them out to kill them in the wilderness.” 29Yet they are your people and your inheritance, that you brought out by your great power and by your outstretched arm.’”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 10**

New Stone Tablets

1“At that time Yahweh said to me, ‘Chisel out two tablets of stone for yourself like the first *ones* and come up to me on the mountain and make an ark of wood for yourself. 2I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets that you broke, and you are to put them in the ark.’ 3So I made an ark of acacia wood and chiseled out two tablets of stone like the first *ones* and went up onto the mountain, having the two tablets in my hand. 4Then he wrote on the tablets what he had written before, the ten commandments that Yahweh spoke to you on the mountain out of the midst of the fire on the day of the assembly. Then Yahweh gave them to me. 5I turned and came down from the mountain and put the tablets in the ark that I had made, and there they are just as Yahweh commanded me.”

6The children of Israel traveled from the wells of the sons of Beeroth Bene-jaakan[[7]](#footnote-25719) to Moserah. There Aaron died and there he was buried, and Eleazar his son ministered in the priest’s office in his place. 7From there they traveled to Gudgodah, and from Gudgodah to Jotbathah, a land of brooks of water.

8“At that time Yahweh set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of Yahweh, to stand before Yahweh to minister to him and to bless in his name to this day. 9Therefore Levi has no portion nor inheritance with his brothers; Yahweh is his inheritance according as Yahweh your God spoke to him.

10“I stayed on the mountain 40 days and 40 nights, like *I did* the first time, and Yahweh listened to me that time also; Yahweh would not destroy you. 11Yahweh said to me, ‘Arise, take your journey ahead of the people, so that they may go in and possess the land that I swore to their fathers to give to them.’

Fear Yahweh

12“Now, Israel, what does Yahweh your God require of you but to fear Yahweh your God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him and to serve Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul, 13*and* to keep the commandments of Yahweh and his statutes that I command you this day for your good? 14Behold, to Yahweh your God belongs heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it, 15yet Yahweh set his affection on your fathers to love them, and he chose their seed after them—you—over all the *other* peoples, even as it is today. 16So circumcise the foreskin of your heart and do not be stiff-necked anymore. 17For Yahweh your God, he is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, the mighty and the awesome one, who does not show partiality nor takes a bribe. 18He executes justice for the fatherless and widow, and loves the foreigner by giving him food and clothing. 19Therefore love the foreigner, for you were foreigners in the land of Egypt. 20You are to fear Yahweh your God; you are to serve him and you are to cling to him, and you are to swear by his name. 21He is your praise, and he is your God who has done for you these great and awesome things that your eyes have seen. 22Your fathers went down into Egypt as 70 persons; and now Yahweh your God has made you as numerous as the stars of heaven.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 11**

Love and Obey Yahweh

1“Therefore you are to love Yahweh your God and always keep his instructions and his statutes and his ordinances and his commandments. 2And know this day that I am not speaking to your children who have not known and who have not seen the discipline of Yahweh your God;

His greatness, his mighty hand and his outstretched arm, 3and his signs and his works that he did in the midst of Egypt to Pharaoh the king of Egypt and to all his land, 4and what he did to the army of Egypt, to their horses and to their chariots, how he made the water of the Red Sea flow over them as they pursued you, and how Yahweh has destroyed them *even* to this day, 5and what he did to you in the wilderness until you came to this place, 6and what he did to Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, the son of Reuben, how in the midst of all *the camp of* Israel the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, and their households and their tents and every living thing that followed them.

7“But your eyes have seen all the great work of Yahweh that he did.

8“Therefore you are to keep every commandment that I command you this day so that you may be strong and go in and possess the land that you are going over *the Jordan* to possess, 9and so that you may prolong your days in the land that Yahweh swore to your fathers to give to them and to their seed, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10For the land where you are going in to possess it is not like the land of Egypt that you came out from, where you sowed your seed and watered it with your foot like a garden of herbs; 11but the land where you are going over to possess it is a land of hills and valleys that drinks water of the rain of heaven, 12a land that Yahweh your God cares for. The eyes of Yahweh your God are always on it, from the beginning of the year even to the end of the year.

13“If you will listen diligently to my commandments that I command you this day, to love Yahweh your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, 14I will give the rain of your land in its season, the former rain and the latter rain, so that you may gather in your grain and your new wine and your oil. 15I will give grass in your fields for your livestock, and you will eat and be full. 16Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived and you turn aside and serve other gods and bow down to them,[[8]](#footnote-25638) 17and the anger of Yahweh becomes kindled against you and he shuts up the heavens so that there is no rain and the land does not yield its fruit, and you perish quickly from off the good land that Yahweh gives you.

18“Therefore you are to lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul and you are to bind them for a sign on your hand, and they will be for symbols between your eyes. 19You are to teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit in your house and when you walk on the road, and when you lie down and when you rise up. 20You are to write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, 21so that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that Yahweh swore to your fathers to give them as the days of the heavens above the earth. 22For if you will diligently keep all these commandments that I command you to do, to love Yahweh your God, to walk in all his ways and to cling to him, 23then Yahweh will drive out all these nations from before you and you will dispossess nations greater and mightier than yourselves. 24Every place on which the sole of your foot will tread will be yours, from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river—the Euphrates River—even to the western sea will be your border. 25No man will be able to stand before you. Yahweh your God will put the fear of you and the dread of you on all the land that you will tread on, just as he has spoken to you.

Blessing Follows Obedience

26“Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse: 27the blessing if you will listen to the commandments of Yahweh your God that I command you this day, 28and the curse if you do not listen to the commandments of Yahweh your God, but turn aside out of the way that I command you this day *in order* to go after other gods that you have not known. 29When Yahweh your God brings you into the land where you are going to possess it, you are to proclaim the blessing on Mount Gerizim and the curse on Mount Ebal. 30Are not these *mountains* beyond the Jordan, beyond the road of the going down of the sun, in the land of the Canaanites who live in the Arabah opposite Gilgal, beside the oaks of Moreh? 31For you are to pass over the Jordan to go in to possess the land that Yahweh your God gives you, and you will possess it, and live in it. 32You are to be careful to do all the statutes and the ordinances that I set before you this day.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 12**

The Chosen Place of Worship

1“These are the statutes and the ordinances that you are to be careful to do in the land that Yahweh, the God of your fathers, has given to you to possess all the days that you live on the earth. 2You are to destroy, yes, destroy all the places where the nations that you dispossess served their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree, 3and you are to break down their altars and dash their *sacred* standing-stones in pieces and burn their Asherah poles with fire, and you are to cut down the carved images of their gods and you are to destroy their name out of that place. 4You are not to act that way toward Yahweh your God. 5But to the place that Yahweh your God will choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even to his habitation you must seek, and there you must come; 6and you are to bring your burnt offerings and your sacrifices and your tithes, and the wave offering of your hand, and your vows and your freewill offerings and the firstborn of your herd and of your flock to that place: 7and you are to eat there before Yahweh your God, and you and your households will rejoice in all that you put your hand to in which Yahweh your God has blessed you.

8“You are not to do all the things that we are doing here today; every man *doing* whatever is right in his own eyes, 9for you have not yet come to the rest and to the inheritance that Yahweh your God is giving you. 10But when you go over the Jordan and live in the land that Yahweh your God causes you to inherit, and he gives you rest from all your enemies around you so that you live in safety, 11then to the place that Yahweh your God will choose to cause his name to live there, *it is* there you are to bring all that I command you: your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the wave offering of your hand, and all your choice vows that you vow to Yahweh. 12You will rejoice before Yahweh your God, you and your sons and your daughters, and your male servants and your female servants and the Levite who is inside your gates, because he has no portion nor inheritance with you. 13Take heed to yourself that you do not offer your burnt offerings in every place that you see; 14but in the place that Yahweh will choose in one of your tribes, *it is* there you must offer your burnt offerings and there you must do all that I command you.

Slaughtering Animals for Food

15“However, you may kill and eat meat inside all your gates according to all the desire of your soul, according to the blessing of Yahweh your God that he has given to you: *both* the unclean and the clean *person* may eat of it, *animals* like the gazelle and like the deer. 16Only you must not eat the blood; you are to pour it out on the earth like water. 17*But* inside your gates you are not to eat the tithe of your grain or of your new wine or of your oil or the firstborn of your herd or of your flock, nor any of your vows that you vow, nor your freewill offerings, nor the wave offering of your hand; 18but you must eat them before Yahweh your God in the place that Yahweh your God will choose, you and your son and your daughter and your male servant and your female servant and the Levite who is inside your gates, and you are to rejoice before Yahweh your God in all that you put your hand to. 19Be careful that you do not forsake the Levite as long as you live in your land.

20“When Yahweh your God enlarges your territory as he has promised you and you say, ‘I want to eat meat,’ because your soul desires to eat meat, you may eat meat according to all the desire of your soul. 21If the place that Yahweh your God will choose to put his name there is too far from you, then you may kill of your herd and of your flock that Yahweh has given to you, as I have commanded you, and you may eat inside your gates after all the desire of your soul. 22Even as the gazelle and as the deer is eaten, so you may eat of it; *both* the unclean and the clean *person alike* may eat of it. 23Only be sure that you do not eat the blood, for the blood is the life; and you must not eat the life with the flesh. 24You must not eat it; you are to pour it out onto the ground like water. 25You must not eat it so that it will go well with you and with your children who come after you when you do what is right in the eyes of Yahweh.

26“Only your holy things that you have, and your vows, you are to take and go to the place that Yahweh will choose; 27and you are to offer your burnt offerings, the flesh and the blood, on the altar of Yahweh your God. And the blood of your *other* sacrifices is to be poured out on the altar of Yahweh your God, but you may eat the flesh. 28Be careful and listen to all these words that I command you so that it will go well with you and with your children after you forever when you do what is good and right in the eyes of Yahweh your God.

Warning Against Idolatry

29“When Yahweh your God cuts off the nations from before you where you are going in to dispossess them, and you dispossess them and dwell in their land, 30be careful that after they have been destroyed from before you, you not are not ensnared by following them, and that you do not inquire about their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods? I will do the same.’ 31You must not behave that way toward Yahweh your God, for every abomination to Yahweh that he hates they do for their gods, for they even burn their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods. 32Whatever thing I command you, that you must be careful to do; do not add to it or take away from it.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 13**

False Prophets

1“If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, 2*and* he says, ‘Let’s go after other gods,’ that you have not known, ‘and let’s serve them,’ and the sign or the wonder comes to pass about which he spoke to you, 3you are not to listen to the words of that prophet or to that dreamer of dreams, for Yahweh your God is testing you to know whether you love Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul. 4You must walk after Yahweh your God and fear him, and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you must serve him and cling to him. 5That prophet or that dreamer of dreams must be put to death, because he has spoken rebellion against Yahweh your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you out of the house of slavery, to draw you aside out of the way that Yahweh your God commanded you to walk in. So you must eliminate the evil from the midst of you.

Do Not Tolerate Idolatry

6“If your brother, the son of your mother, or your son, or your daughter, or the wife of your bosom, or your friend who is as your own soul, entices you secretly, saying, ‘Let’s go and serve other gods,’ that you have not known, you nor your fathers, 7of the gods of the peoples who are around you, near to you or far off from you, from the one end of the earth even to the other end of the earth, 8you must not yield to him or listen to him; and your eye is not to pity him. You are not to spare him, and you must not conceal him, 9but you are to kill, yes, kill him; your hand is to be first on him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people. 10You are to stone him to death with stones, because he has sought to draw you away from Yahweh your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 11All Israel will hear and fear and will not do any more such wickedness as this is in the midst of you.

12“If you hear that in one of your cities that Yahweh your God is giving to you to live there, *anyone* saying *that* 13‘Certain men, sons of Belial, have gone out from among you and have drawn away the inhabitants of their city, saying, “Let’s go and serve other gods,”’ (*gods* that you have not known), 14then you are to inquire, and make a search, and ask diligently and, behold, if it is true and the thing is established that such an abomination has been done among you, 15you must surely strike the inhabitants of that city with the mouth of the sword, destroying it completely and everyone who is in it, and its livestock, with the mouth of the sword. 16You are to gather all its spoil into the middle of its city square and are to burn the city and all its spoil with fire as a whole burnt offering to Yahweh your God, and it must be a mound of ruins forever; it is not to be built again. 17Nothing of the devoted thing is to cling to your hand so that Yahweh will turn from the fierceness of his anger and show you mercy and have compassion on you, and multiply you as he has sworn to your fathers 18because you have listened to the voice of Yahweh your God, keeping all his commandments that I command you this day, to do what is right in the eyes of Yahweh your God.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 14**

Clean and Unclean Food

1“You are the sons of Yahweh your God: do not cut yourselves nor make any baldness between your eyes for the dead. 2For you are a holy people to Yahweh your God, and Yahweh has chosen you to be a people for his own possession above all peoples who are on the face of the earth.

3“You must not eat any detestable thing. 4These are the animals that you may eat:

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|  | the ox, the sheep and the goat, |
| 5 | the deer and the gazelle and the roebuck,  and the wild goat and the ibex,  and the antelope and the mountain sheep. |

6“Every animal that parts the hoof and has the hoof divided in two and chews the cud among the animals, that may you eat. 7Nevertheless these you are not to eat of those *animals* that *only* chew the cud, or of those that *only* have the divided hoof:

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| --- | --- |
|  | the camel and the rabbit and the hyrax;  because they chew the cud but do not have a divided hoof;  they are unclean to you. |
| 8 | The pig, because it has a split hoof but does not chew the cud,  is unclean to you. |

“Of their flesh you must not eat and their carcasses you must not touch.

9“These you may eat of all that are in the waters: whatever has fins and scales may you eat, 10and whatever does not have fins and scales you may not eat; it is unclean to you.

11“Of all clean birds you may eat. 12But these are those of which you may not eat:

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| --- | --- |
|  | the eagle,  and the vulture and the black vulture, |
| 13 | and the red kite, and the falcon,  and any kind of kite, |
| 14 | and any kind of raven, |
| 15 | and the ostrich, and the owl,  and the seagull,  and any kind of hawk, |
| 16 | the little owl, and the great owl, and the horned owl, |
| 17 | and the pelican, and the vulture, and the cormorant, |
| 18 | and the stork,  and every kind of heron,  and the hoopoe, and the bat. |

19“All winged insects are unclean to you; you are not to eat them. 20Of all clean birds you may eat.

21“You are not to eat of anything that dies of itself; you may give it to the foreigner living among you who is inside your gates so that he can eat it, or you may sell it to a foreigner; for you are a holy people to Yahweh your God. You must not boil a young goat in its mother’s milk.

A Tenth for Yahweh

22“You are to tithe, yes, tithe all the produce from your seed sowing; of that which comes forth from the field year after year. 23You are to eat before Yahweh your God in the place that he will choose to cause his name to dwell there, the tithe of your grain, of your new wine and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and of your flock, that you may learn to fear Yahweh your God always. 24If the way is too long for you so that you are not able to carry it because the place is too far from you that Yahweh your God will choose to set his name there when Yahweh your God will bless you, 25then you are to turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand, and are to go to the place that Yahweh your God will choose; 26and you may spend the money on whatever your soul desires, for cattle or for sheep or for wine or for beer, or for whatever your soul asks of you, and you are to eat there before Yahweh your God and you are to rejoice, you and your household. 27The Levite who is inside your gates, you must not forsake him, for he has no portion nor inheritance with you.

28“At the end of every three years you are to bring forth all the tithe of your increase in the same year and are to lay it up inside your gates: 29and the Levite, because he has no portion nor inheritance with you, and the foreigner living among you, and the fatherless and the widow who are inside your gates, may come and eat and be satisfied, that Yahweh your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 15**

The Sabbatical Year: Canceling Debts

1At the end of every seven years you are to make a release *of debts*. 2This is the way of the release: every creditor is to release what he has lent to his neighbor; he is not to require payment from his neighbor and his brother, because Yahweh’s release has been proclaimed. 3Of a foreigner you may require payment, but whatever of yours is with your brother your hand must release.

4“However there will be no poor among you (for Yahweh will surely bless you in the land that Yahweh your God gives you for an inheritance to possess it), 5but only if you diligently listen to the voice of Yahweh your God, to be careful do all this commandment that I command you this day. 6For Yahweh your God will bless you as he promised you and you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow; and you will rule over many nations, but they will not rule over you.

Lending to the Poor

7“If a poor man, one of your brothers, is with you inside any of your gates in your land that Yahweh your God gives you, you must not harden your heart nor close your hand to your poor brother, 8but you are to open, yes, open your hand to him and are to lend, yes, lend him sufficient for his need that he lacks. 9Take care that there not be the unworthy thought in your heart that says, ‘The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand,’ and your eye be evil against your needy brother and you give him nothing, so he cries out to Yahweh against you, and it is sin to you. 10You are to give, yes, give *generously* to him, and your heart is not to be grieved when you give to him because on account of this thing Yahweh your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you put your hand to. 11Because the poor will never cease out of the land, I am commanding you, saying, ‘You must open, yes, open your hand to your brother, to your needy, and to your poor, in your land.’

Release of Slaves

12“If your brother, a Hebrew man or a Hebrew woman, is sold to you and serves you six years, then in the seventh year you are to let him go free from you. 13When you let him go free from you, do not send him away empty*-handed*; 14you are to supply, yes, supply him from your flock and from your threshing floor and from your winepress; as Yahweh your God has blessed you, you are to give to him. 15And you are to remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt and Yahweh your God redeemed you; therefore I command you this thing today. 16If he tells you, ‘I will not go out from you,’ because he loves you and your household, because he is well-off with you, 17then you are to take an awl and thrust it through his ear to the door, and he will be your servant forever. Also to your female servant you are to do likewise. 18You are not to let it seem hard in your eyes when you send him out free from you, for double of the hire of a hired hand he has served you six years, and Yahweh your God will bless you in all that you do.

Consecration of Firstborn Animals

19“All the firstborn males that are born of your herd and of your flock you are to dedicate to Yahweh your God; you are to do no work with the firstborn of your herd, nor shear the firstborn of your flock. 20You are to eat it before Yahweh your God year by year in the place that Yahweh will choose, you and your household. 21If it has any blemish, is lame or blind or has any defect whatsoever, you must not sacrifice it to Yahweh your God. 22You are to eat it inside your gates; the unclean *person* and the clean *person* both may eat it, as if it were a gazelle or a deer. 23Only you must not eat its blood; you are to pour it out on the ground like water.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 16**

The Festival of Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread

1“Observe the month of Abib and keep the Passover to Yahweh your God, for in the month of Abib Yahweh your God brought you out of Egypt by night. 2You are to sacrifice the Passover to Yahweh your God of the flock and the herd in the place that Yahweh will choose to cause his name to dwell there. 3You must not eat leavened bread with it. You are to eat unleavened bread with it seven days, even the bread of affliction, for you came out of the land of Egypt in haste. *Do this* so that all the days of your life you remember the day when you came out of the land of Egypt. 4No yeast is to be seen with you in all your territory for seven days, nor is any of the flesh that you sacrifice the first day at evening to remain all night until the morning. 5You may not sacrifice the Passover inside any of your gates that Yahweh your God gives you; 6but at the place that Yahweh your God will choose to cause his name to dwell in, there you must sacrifice the Passover at evening, at the going down of the sun at the time that you came out of Egypt. 7You are to roast and eat it in the place that Yahweh your God will choose, and in the morning you are to return and go to your tents. 8Six days you must eat unleavened bread. On the seventh day is to be a solemn assembly to Yahweh your God; you must do no work.

The Festival of Weeks

9“You are to count for yourselves seven weeks, from the time you begin to put the sickle to the standing grain you are to begin to count seven weeks. 10You are to keep the Feast of Weeks to Yahweh your God with a tribute of a freewill offering of your hand, which you are to give according as Yahweh your God blesses you, 11and you are to rejoice before Yahweh your God, you and your son and your daughter, and your male servant and your female servant and the Levite who is inside your gates, and the foreigner and the fatherless and the widow who are in the midst of you, in the place that Yahweh your God will choose to cause his name to dwell there. 12You are to remember that you were a slave in Egypt, and you are to observe and do these statutes.

The Festival of Booths

13“You are to keep the Feast of Booths for seven days once you have gathered in *the produce* from your threshing floor and from your winepress, 14and you are to rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, and your male servant and your female servant, and the Levite and the foreigner and the fatherless and the widow who are inside your gates. 15You are to keep a feast to Yahweh your God seven days in the place that Yahweh will choose, because Yahweh your God will bless you in all your increase and in all the work of your hands, and you will be altogether joyful.

16“Three times in a year all your males are to appear before Yahweh your God in the place that he will choose, in the Feast of Unleavened Bread and in the Feast of Weeks and in the Feast of Booths, and they are not to appear before Yahweh empty; 17every man must give as he is able according to the blessing of Yahweh your God that he has given to you.

Appointing Judges and Officials

18“You are to put in place judges and officers for yourselves in all your gates that Yahweh your God gives you according to your tribes, and they are to judge the people with righteous judgment. 19Do not pervert justice. You must not respect persons, nor are you to take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and perverts the words of the righteous. 20Justice! Justice is what you are to pursue, so that you may live and inherit the land that Yahweh your God gives you.

Forbidden Forms of Worship

21“Do not plant for yourselves an Asherah of any kind of tree beside the altar of Yahweh your God that you will make for yourselves, 22nor are you to set up a standing-stone for yourself, which Yahweh your God hates.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 17**

1“You must not sacrifice to Yahweh your God an ox or a sheep that has a blemish or any defect, for that is an abomination to Yahweh your God.

The Judicial Procedure for Idolatry

2“If there is found in the midst of you, inside any of your gates that Yahweh your God gives you, a man or woman who does what is evil in the eyes of Yahweh your God by transgressing his covenant, 3and has gone and served other gods and bowed down to them,[[9]](#footnote-13111) or the sun or the moon or any of the army of heaven that I have commanded not *to worship*, 4and it is told to you, and you have heard of it, then you must inquire diligently; and behold, if it is true and the thing certain, that this abomination was done in Israel, 5then you must bring out that man or that woman who has done this evil thing to your gates, even the man or the woman, and you must stone them with stones so that they die. 6At the mouth of two witnesses or three witnesses is he who is to die to be put to death; at the mouth of one witness he is not to be put to death. 7The hand of the witnesses are to be first on him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people. So you must purge the evil from the midst of you.

Legal Decisions by Priests and Judges

8“If there arises a matter too hard for you in judgment, between blood and blood, between plea and plea and between stroke and stroke, being matters of controversy inside your gates, then you must arise and go up to the place that Yahweh your God will choose; 9and you are to come to the Levitical priests and to the judge that is there in those days, and you are to inquire and they will show you the sentence of judgment. 10You must do according to the word that they will tell you from that place that Yahweh will choose, and you must be careful to do according to all that they teach you; 11according to the instruction that they instruct you and according to the judgment that they tell you, you must do; do not turn aside from the word that they tell you to the right hand nor to the left. 12But the man who shows contempt for the priest who stands there before Yahweh your God to serve *Him*, or *shows* *contempt* for the judge, by not obeying them, that man must die. In this way you will eliminate the evil from Israel. 13And all the people will hear and fear and no longer show contempt.

Laws Concerning Israel’s Kings

14“When you have come to the land that Yahweh your God gives you and possess it and dwell in it, and say, ‘I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,’ 15then you must set, yes, set a king over you that Yahweh your God will choose: one from among your brothers you are to set king over you; you are not to put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. 16Only he must not acquire many horses for himself, nor make the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, because Yahweh has said to you, ‘You are not to go back that way again.’ 17And he must not acquire many wives for himself, so that his heart does not turn away, and he must not greatly multiply to himself silver and gold. 18When he sits on the throne of his kingdom he is to write for himself a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the Levitical priests, 19and it is to be with him and he is to read from it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear Yahweh his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes to do them, 20that his heart not be lifted up above his brothers and that he not turn aside from the commandment, to the right hand or to the left; to the end that he prolongs his days in his kingdom, he and his sons, in the midst of Israel.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 18**

Provision for Priests and Levites

1“The Levitical priests, *and* all the tribe of Levi, will have no portion nor inheritance with Israel; they will eat the offerings of Yahweh made by fire, for that is his inheritance. 2They will have no inheritance *of land* among their brothers. Yahweh is their inheritance as he has spoken to them. 3This will be the priests’ share from the people, from those who offer a sacrifice, whether it is an ox or sheep: they are to give to the priest the shoulder and the two cheeks and the belly. 4The firstfruits of your grain, of your new wine and of your oil, and the first of the fleece of your sheep you are to give him. 5For Yahweh your God has chosen him out of all your tribes to stand to minister in the name of Yahweh, he and his sons all the days *to come*. 6Now if a Levite comes from any of your gates out of all Israel where he lives—and he may come when his soul desires—to the place that Yahweh will choose, 7then he may minister in the name of Yahweh his God, as all his brothers the Levites do who stand there before Yahweh. 8They will have equal portions to eat, even though he *also* has what came from the sale of his ancestral property.

Occult Practices

9“When you have come into the land that Yahweh your God is giving you, you are not to learn to do the abominable things that those nations *do*. 10There is not to be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, who practices divination, who tells fortunes, or interprets omens, or practices sorcery, 11or one who casts spells, or one who inquires of spirits or of a familiar spirit, or a necromancer. 12For whoever does these things is an abomination to Yahweh, and because of these abominations Yahweh your God will drive them out from before you. 13You must be blameless before Yahweh your God. 14For those nations that you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery and to diviners, but as for you, Yahweh your God does not allow you to do so.

The Prophet Foretold

15“Yahweh your God will raise up to you a prophet from the midst of you, of your brothers, like me. You must listen to him. 16This is according to all that you desired of Yahweh your God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of Yahweh my God, nor let me see this great fire any more, so that I do not die.’ 17Yahweh said to me, ‘What they have spoken is good. 18I will raise them up a prophet from among their brothers, like you, and I will put my words in his mouth and he will speak to them all that I command him. 19And it will be that whoever will not listen to my words that he will speak in my name, I will require *a reckoning* from him. 20But the prophet who dares speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet will die.’ 21And if you say in your heart, ‘How can we know that Yahweh has not spoken the word?’ 22When a prophet speaks in the name of Yahweh, if the word does not happen, is not fulfilled, *then* Yahweh has not spoken that word; the prophet has spoken it out of his presumption, do not be afraid of him.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 19**

Cities of Refuge

1When Yahweh your God cuts off the nations whose land Yahweh your God is giving you, and you dispossess them and settle in their cities and in their houses, 2you are to set apart three cities for yourselves in the midst of your land that Yahweh your God is giving to you to possess. 3You are to measure for yourselves the distances and divide into three parts the territory of your land that Yahweh your God is causing you to inherit so that every *accidental* killer may flee there.

4“This is the case of the killer who will flee there and live: whoever kills his neighbor unintentionally and did not previously hate him, 5like when a man goes into the forest with his neighbor to chop wood, and his hand swings away with the axe to cut down a tree, and the iron *head* slips off the handle and strikes his neighbor so that he dies, he may flee to one of these cities and stay alive 6lest the avenger of blood pursue the killer while his heart is hot, and overtake him because the road is long, and strike him mortally, even though he was not worthy of death since he had not hated him in time past. 7Therefore I command you, saying, you are to set apart three cities for yourselves. 8But if Yahweh your God enlarges your territory as he has sworn to your fathers, and gives you all the land that he promised to give to your fathers— 9indeed, you are to keep all this commandment that I command you this day by doing it, to love Yahweh your God, and to walk in his ways all the days—then you are to add three more cities for yourselves to these three *cities* 10so that innocent blood is not shed in the midst of your land that Yahweh your God is giving you as an inheritance, and there be bloodguilt on you. 11But if any man hates his neighbor and lies in wait for him and rises up against him, and strikes him mortally so that he dies, and he flees into one of these cities, 12then the elders of his city are to send and have him taken from there and are to give him over into the hand of the avenger of blood so that he dies. 13Your eye must not pity him, but you must eliminate the *shedding of* innocent blood from Israel so that it will go well with you.

Property Boundaries

14“You must not move your neighbor’s boundary marker that the men of former times have set as boundaries in your inheritance that you will inherit, in the land that Yahweh your God is giving you to possess it.

Laws Concerning Witnesses

15“One witness cannot rise up against a man for any iniquity or for any sin in any sin that he sins; by the mouth of two witnesses or at the mouth of three witnesses a matter is to be established.

16“If a malicious witness rises up against any person to testify against him of wrongdoing, 17then both the people who have the dispute must stand before Yahweh, before the priests and the judges who will be *in office* in those days, 18and the judges are to make diligent inquisition; and behold, if the witness is a false witness and has testified falsely against his brother, 19then you must do to him as he had planned to do to his brother. In this way you must purge the evil from the midst of you. 20Those who remain will hear and be afraid, and will never again commit any such evil in the midst of you. 21Your eyes must not pity: *it is to be* life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 20**

Laws Concerning Warfare

1“When you go out to battle against your enemies, and see horses, chariots and a people more numerous than you, do not be afraid of them, for Yahweh your God is with you, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. 2When you draw near to the battle, the priest is to approach and speak to the people 3and is to say to them, ‘Hear, O Israel, you are drawing near this day to battle against your enemies; do not let your heart faint; do not be afraid, nor panic, nor be terrified of them, 4for Yahweh your God is he who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.’

5Then the officers are to speak to the people, saying, ‘What man is there who has built a new house and has not dedicated it? Let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle and another man dedicate it. 6What man is there who has planted a vineyard and has not yet put it to use? Let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle and another man make use of it.. 7And what man is there who has pledged to be married to a wife, and has not taken her? Let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle and another man take her.’ 8The officers are to continue to speak to the people, and they are to say, ‘What man is there who is fearful and fainthearted? Let him go and return to his house, so that he does not make the heart of his fellows melt like his heart.’ 9And when the officers have finished speaking to the people, they are to appoint commanders of armies *to be* at the head of the people.

10“When you draw near to a city to fight against it, then call out *terms of* peace to it. 11And if it gives you an answer of peace and opens *its gates* to you, then all the people who are found in it will become your forced laborers and will serve you. 12But if it will not make peace with you, but makes war against you, then you are to besiege it, 13and when Yahweh your God gives it into your hand you must strike down all its males with the mouth of the sword; 14but the women and the little ones and the livestock and everything that is in the city, all its spoil, you may take as plunder for yourself, and you may use the spoil of your enemies that Yahweh your God has given to you. 15Thus you are to do to all the cities that are very far off from you that are not of the cities of these nations *nearby*. 16But of the cities of these *nearby* peoples that Yahweh your God is giving you as an inheritance, you are not to leave alive anything that breathes, 17but you must devote them to destruction, yes, destruction: the Hittite and the Amorite, the Canaanite and the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite, as Yahweh your God has commanded you, 18so that they do not teach you to do all the same abominations that they have done for their gods, *and* by which you would sin against Yahweh your God.

19“When you will besiege a city a long time, making war against it to take it, you must not destroy its trees by swinging an axe against them because you can eat from them, so you must not cut them down; for is the tree of the field a man, that you should come against them in a siege? 20Only the trees of which you know that they are not trees for food you may destroy and cut down so that you can build siege works against the city that is making war with you until its downfall.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 21**

Atonement for Unsolved Murders

1“If a corpse is found on the soil that Yahweh your God is giving you to possess, lying in the field, and it is not known who has struck him down, 2then your elders and your judges must go out, and they must measure to the cities that are around the one who was slain. 3And the city that is nearest to the slain man—the elders of that city—are to take a heifer of the herd that has not been put to work and that has never pulled a yoke, 4and the elders of that city are to bring down the heifer to a valley with a continually flowing stream that has never been plowed or sown, and are to break the heifer’s neck there in the valley. 5Then the priests, the sons of Levi, will come near, for Yahweh your God has chosen them to minister to him and to bless in the name of Yahweh; and by their word every controversy and every assault is to be *settled*. 6And all the elders of that city who are nearest to the slain man are to wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the valley, 7then they will answer and say, ‘Our hands have not shed this blood, nor did our eyes see it.’ 8Forgive, O Yahweh, your people Israel whom you have redeemed, and do not put *the guilt of* innocent blood in the midst of your people Israel.’ Then they will be atoned for the blood, 9and in this way are you to eliminate the *shedding of* innocent blood from the midst of you, for you are to do what is right in the eyes of Yahweh.

Marrying Female Captives

10“When you go out to battle against your enemies and Yahweh your God delivers them into your hands and you take them away captive 11and you see among the captives a beautiful woman, and you desire her and would take her for yourself as a wife, 12then you are to bring her home into the midst of your household, and she must shave her head and trim her nails. 13She is to take off the clothing of her captivity from off her and must remain in your house and weep for her father and her mother a full month, and after that you may go into her and be her husband, and she will be your wife. 14And if you are not pleased with her, then you are to let her go where she wants; but sell, *no*, you are not to sell her for money, you must not deal with her as a slave because you have humbled her.

The Right of the Firstborn

15“If a man has two wives, the one loved and the other hated, and they bear him sons, both the beloved and the hated, and if the firstborn son is hers who is hated, 16then in the day that he causes his sons to inherit what he has, he must not make the son of the beloved the firstborn before the son of the hated, who is the firstborn; 17but he must acknowledge the firstborn, the son of the hated, by giving him a double portion of all that he has, for he is the beginning of his strength; the right of the firstborn is his.

A Rebellious Son

18“If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother and, though they discipline him, will not listen to them, 19then his father and his mother are to lay hold on him and bring him out to the elders of his city, to the gate of his place, 20and they will tell the elders of his city, ‘This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton and a drunkard.’ 21Then all the men of his city are to stone him with stones so that he dies. So you are to eliminate the evil from the midst of you, and all Israel will hear and fear.

Displaying of Executed People

22“If a man has committed a sin worthy of death, and he is put to death and you hang him on a tree, 23his body is not to remain all night on the tree, but you are to surely bury him the same day (for he who is hanged is accursed of God), so that you do not defile your land that Yahweh your God gives you for an inheritance.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 22**

Caring for Property of Others

1“You must not see your brother’s ox or his sheep going astray and hide yourself from them; you must surely take them back to your brother. 2If your brother is not near to you or if you do not know him, then you are to bring it into the midst of your house and it is to be with you until your brother looks for it; then you can restore it to him. 3You must do this with his donkey and you must do this with his clothing, and you must do this with every lost thing of your brother’s that he has lost and you have found; you are not to hide yourself *from them*. 4You must not see your brother’s donkey or his ox fallen down by the road and hide yourself from them; you are to lift, yes, lift it up *together* with him.

Distinctions in Clothing

5“There is not to be a man’s things upon a woman, nor is a man to put on women’s clothing, for whoever does these things is an abomination to Yahweh your God.

Various Laws

6“If you happen to come across a bird’s nest in any tree or on the ground as you travel on the road, and it has young ones or eggs and the mother is sitting on the young or on the eggs, you must not take the mother with the young; 7you must set free, set free the mother, but the young you may take to yourself; *do this so* that it will be well with you, and that you may prolong your days. 8When you build a new house, then you are to make a railing for your roof so that you do not bring bloodguilt on your house if anyone falls from there. 9You are not to sow your vineyard with two kinds of seed or the entire yield will be forfeited as holy, *both* the seed that you have sown and the increase of the vineyard. 10Do not plow with an ox and a donkey together. 11Do not wear a mixed cloth; wool and linen together. 12You are to make yourselves tassels on the four corners of your cloak with which you cover yourself.

Laws Governing Proper Sexual Conduct

13“If any man takes a wife and goes in to her but *then* hates her, 14and accuses her of shameful things, and brings on her an evil name, and says, ‘I took this woman, but when I came near to her, I did not find her to have evidence of virginity,’ 15then the father of the girl, and her mother, are to take and bring out the evidence of the girl’s virginity to the elders at the gate of the city, 16Then the girl’s father is to say to the elders, ‘I gave my daughter to this man as a wife and he has come to hate her. 17Now, behold, he has accused her of shameful things, saying, “I did not find your daughter to have evidence of *her* virginity,” but this is the evidence of my daughter’s virginity.’ And they are to spread the cloth before the elders of the city. 18Then the elders of that city will take the man and discipline him. 19They are to fine him 100 shekels[[10]](#footnote-20164) of silver and give them to the father of the girl, because he has brought an evil name on a virgin in Israel. And she is to remain his wife; he may not divorce her all his days. 20But if the matter is true, that the evidence of virginity was not found with the girl, 21then they will bring out the girl to the entrance of her father’s house and the men of her city are to stone her with stones so that she dies, because she has done a foolish thing in Israel to prostitute herself in her father’s house; so you must purge the evil from the midst of you.

22“If a man is found lying with a woman married to a husband, then they must die, the two of them, the man who lay with the woman and the woman; so you must purge the evil from Israel. 23If there is a girl who is a virgin pledged to be married to a husband, and a man find her in the city and lies with her, 24then you must take both of them out to the gate of that city and you must stone them with stones so that they die; the girl because she did not cry out in the city, and the man, because he has humbled his neighbor’s wife. So you must purge the evil from the midst of you. 25But if the man finds the girl who is pledged to be married in the field, and the man forces her and lies with her, then only the man who lay with her is to die; 26but to the girl you are to do nothing; there is in the girl no sin *deserving* of death, for just as when a man rises against his neighbor and kills him, so is this matter; 27for he found her in the field and the girl pledged to be married cried out but there was none to save her. 28If a man find a girl who is a virgin, who is not pledged to be married, and lays hold on her and lies with her, and they are found, 29then the man who lay with her must give to the girl’s father 50 shekels[[11]](#footnote-19540) of silver and she must be his wife, because he has humbled her; he may not divorce her all his days.

30“A man is not to take his father’s wife *in marriage* and must not uncover his father’s skirt.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 23**

Exclusion From the Assembly

1“He who has his testicles crushed or his male organ cut off may not enter into the assembly of Yahweh. 2A son born from a forbidden union is not to enter the assembly of Yahweh; even to the tenth generation no one *descended* from him is to enter into the assembly of Yahweh. 3An Ammonite or a Moabite is not to enter the assembly of Yahweh; even to the tenth generation none belonging to them is to enter the assembly of Yahweh forever, 4because they did not meet you on the road with bread and with water when you came out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia to curse you. 5But Yahweh your God would not listen to Balaam, and Yahweh your God turned the curse into a blessing for you, because Yahweh your God loves you. 6You are not to seek their peace or their prosperity all your days, for the ages! 7You are not to abhor an Edomite, for he is your brother; you are not to abhor an Egyptian, because you lived as a foreigner in his land. 8The sons of the third generation who are born to them may enter into the assembly of Yahweh.

Uncleanness in the Camp

9When you are encamped against your enemies, then you are to keep yourselves from every evil thing. 10If there is among you any man who is not *ritually* clean because of what happens to him by night, then must he go outside of the camp. He must not come inside the camp, 11but as sunset comes near he must bathe himself in water, and when the sun is down he may come inside the camp. 12You are to have a place outside the camp that you can go out to *and relieve yourself.* 13And you must have a digging tool among your equipment. And when you squat down outside *to relieve yourself*, you are to dig with it and then turn back and cover your excrement; 14for Yahweh your God walks around in the midst of your camp to protect you and to defeat your enemies before you; so your camp must be holy so that he does not see any indecent thing among you and turn away from you.

Miscellaneous Laws

15“Do not deliver to his lord a slave who has escaped from his lord to you; 16he is to live with you in the midst of you, in the place that he will choose, within one of your gates that pleases him; do not oppress him.

17“There are to be no cult prostitutes of the daughters of Israel, nor is there to be a male cult prostitute of the sons of Israel. 18You are not to bring the fee of a prostitute or the wages of a dog into the house of Yahweh your God for any vow; for the two of these are an abomination to Yahweh your God.

19“You are not to charge interest to your brother; interest on money *that you lend*, interest on food, *or* interest on anything that can be lent on interest; 20to a foreigner you may charge interest, but to your brother you must not charge interest, so that Yahweh your God will bless you in all that you put your hand to in the land where you are going in to possess it.

21“When you vow a vow to Yahweh your God, you are not to delay paying it, for Yahweh your God will require, yes, require it of you, and it will be *counted* as a sin to you. 22But if you refrain from vowing, it will not be a sin to you. 23Whatever has gone out of your lips you are to keep, and you are to do as you have vowed to Yahweh your God, *it was* a voluntary offering that you promised with your mouth.

24“When you come into your neighbor’s vineyard, then you may eat of grapes until your soul is satisfied, but you must not put any in your bag. 25When you come into your neighbor’s standing grain, then you may pluck the ears with your hand; but you must not use a sickle on your neighbor’s standing grain.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 24**

Marriage and Divorce Laws

1“When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some indecency in her, he is to write her a bill of divorce and put it in her hand, and send her out of his house. 2When she has gone out of his house, she may go and be another man’s wife. 3And if the second husband hates her and writes her a bill of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out of his house, or if the second husband, who took her to be his wife, dies, 4her former husband who sent her away may not take her again to be his wife, after she has been made unclean, for that is an abomination before Yahweh, and you must not cause the land to sin that Yahweh your God gives you for an inheritance.

5“When a man takes a new wife, he is not to not go out in the army, nor is he to be assigned any public duty. He is to be free *to stay* at home one year and bring happiness to his wife whom he has taken.

Safeguarding Life

6No one is to take as security a hand mill, or *even* the upper millstone, because he would be taking a *person’s* life as a security.

7“If a man is found kidnapping any of his brothers of the children of Israel and he deals with him as a slave or sells him, then that thief must die; so you must purge the evil from the midst of you.

8“Take heed in the plague of leprosy, that you are very careful to do according to all that the Levitical priests teach you. As I commanded them, so you are to be careful to do. 9Remember what Yahweh your God did to Miriam on the way as you came out of Egypt.

Consideration for the Needy

10“When you lend your neighbor any kind of loan, you are not to go into his house to get *the thing* that he has pledged. 11You are to stand outside, and the man to whom you make the loan is to bring the pledge outside to you. 12If he is a poor man, you must not sleep in his pledge; 13you are to return, yes, return the pledge to him when the sun goes down so that he can sleep in his garment and bless you, and that will be righteousness to you before Yahweh your God.

14“You are not to oppress a hired servant who is poor and needy, whether he is one of your brothers or one of your foreigners who are in your land inside your gates; 15on that *same* day you are to give him his wage; you are not to let the sun to go down on him, for he is poor and sets his heart on it; lest he cry out against you to Yahweh and it is sin upon you.

16“The fathers are not to be put to death for the *sins of the* children, nor are the children to be put to death for the fathers; every man will be put to death for his own sin. 17You are not to deprive the foreigner or the fatherless of justice, nor take a widow’s clothing in pledge; 18but you are to remember that you were a slave in Egypt, and Yahweh your God redeemed you from there. Therefore I command you to do this thing.

19“When you reap your harvest in your field and you forget a sheaf in the field, you are not to go back to get it; it is to be for the foreigner, for the fatherless and for the widow, that Yahweh your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. 20When you beat *the olives off* your olive tree, you are not to examine the boughs again; that will be left for the foreigner, for the fatherless and for the widow. 21When you harvest your vineyard, you are not to glean it afterwards; that *gleaning* will be for the foreigner, for the fatherless and for the widow. 22You are to remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt; therefore I am commanding you to do this thing.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 25**

Fairness and Mercy

1“If there is a controversy between people and they go to court, and the judges judge them, then they are to declare as righteous the righteous one, and declare as guilty the guilty one. 2And it will be, if the guilty one is worthy to be beaten, that the judge is to make him lie down and be beaten in his presence, according to his guilt, *and* by number. 3He may give him 40 lashes. He is not to exceed *that number,* lest, if he should exceed it and beat him with many more lashes than these, then your brother would be contemptible in your eyes.

4“You are not to muzzle the ox when it treads out the grain.

Preserving the Family Line

5“If brothers live together and one of them dies but has no son, the wife of the dead is not to be married outside *the family* to a stranger; her husband’s brother is to go in to her and take her to himself as a wife and perform the duty of a husband’s brother to her. 6Now it is to be that the firstborn whom she bears will carry on the name of his *father’s* dead brother so that his name is not blotted out of Israel.

7But if the man does not want to take his brother’s wife, then his brother’s wife is to go up to the gate *of the city*, to the elders, and say, ‘My husband’s brother refuses to carry on his brother’s name in Israel. He will not perform the duty of a husband’s brother to me.’ 8Then the elders of his city are to call him and speak to him, and if he stands *there* and says, ‘I do not want to take her,’ 9then his brother’s wife is to approach him in the presence of the elders and take off his sandal from his foot and spit in his face. Then she is to answer and say, ‘This is what is done to the man who does not build up the house of his brother!’ 10And his name is to be called in Israel, ‘The house of him who has his sandal taken off.’

11“When men fight together, a man with his brother, and the wife of the one comes near to deliver her husband out of the hand of him who is hitting him, and she stretches out her hand and takes him by the genitals, 12then you are to cut off her hand; your eye must have no pity.

Honest Weights and Measures

13“You are not to have in your bag differing weights, a great and a small. 14You are not to have in your house differing measures, a great and a small. 15You are to have a perfect and equal stone weight, you are to have a perfect and equal measure, in order that your days will be long on the soil that Yahweh your God is giving you. 16For everyone who does such things, everyone who deals dishonestly, are an abomination to Yahweh your God.

17“Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you came out of Egypt, 18how he met you on the way and cut off your tail—all those who were lagging behind you—when you were faint and weary, and he did not fear God. 19Therefore it will be, when Yahweh your God has given you rest from all your enemies all around in the land that Yahweh your God is giving you as an inheritance, to possess it, that you are to blot out the name of Amalek from under heaven; do not forget.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 26**

Offerings of Firstfruits and Tithes

1“When you have come into the land that Yahweh your God is giving you as an inheritance, and possess it and live in it, 2you are to take of the first of all the fruit of the ground that you produce from your land that Yahweh your God is going to give you, and you are to put it in a basket and are to go to the place that Yahweh your God will choose, to make his name dwell there. 3You are to go to the priest who will be *there* in those days and you are to say to him, ‘I profess this day to Yahweh your God that I have come to the land that Yahweh swore to our fathers to give us.’

4“Then the priest is to take the basket out of your hand and set it down before the altar of Yahweh your God. 5Then you are to answer and say before Yahweh your God:

‘A wandering Syrian was my father, and he went down into Egypt and resided there, few in number; but he became a nation there, great, mighty, and populous. 6But the Egyptians mistreated us and afflicted us and laid hard labor upon us, 7and we cried out to Yahweh, the God of our fathers, and Yahweh heard our voice and saw our affliction and our toil and our oppression, 8and Yahweh brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and with an outstretched arm, and with great *acts of* terror and with signs and with wonders, 9and he brought us to this place and has given us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10Now, behold, I have brought the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Yahweh, have given me.’

“You will set it down before Yahweh your God and bow down[[12]](#footnote-30858) before Yahweh your God. 11You are to rejoice in all the good things that Yahweh your God has given to you and to your house, you and the Levite and the foreigner who is in your midst.

The Third Year Tithe

12“When you finish tithing all the tithe of your increase in the third year, which is the year of tithing, you are to give it to the Levite, to the foreigner, to the fatherless and to the widow, that they may eat it within your gates and be satisfied. 13And you are to say in the presence of Yahweh your God:

‘I have removed the holy *portion* out of my house and also have given it to the Levite and to the foreigner, to the fatherless and to the widow in accordance with all your commandments that you have commanded me; I have not turned aside from any of your commandments, nor have I forgotten them. 14I have not eaten of it while I was mourning, nor have I removed any of it while I was unclean, nor given *any* of it for the dead. I have listened to the voice of Yahweh my God; I have done according to all that you have commanded me. 15Look down from your holy habitation, from heaven, and bless your people Israel and the ground that you have given us as you swore to our fathers, a land flowing with milk and honey.’

Follow the Commands of Yahweh

16“This day Yahweh your God commands you to do these statutes and laws; you are therefore to keep and do them with all your heart and with all your soul. 17Today you have declared Yahweh to be your God, and that you will walk in his ways and keep his statutes and his commandments and his laws, and listen to his voice. 18And Yahweh has declared you today to be his people, his treasured possession, as he has promised you, and that you are to keep all his commandments; 19and *then* he will set you, in praise and in name and in honor, high above all nations that he has made, and you will be a holy people to Yahweh your God, as he has spoken.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 27**

The Stone Altar on Mount Ebal

1Moses and the elders of Israel commanded the people, saying, “Keep every commandment that I command you this day. 2So it is to be that on the day when you cross over the Jordan to the land that Yahweh your God is giving to you, you are to set yourself up great stones and plaster them with plaster, 3and you are to write on them all the words of this law when you have crossed over, in order that you may go in to the land that Yahweh your God gives you, a land flowing with milk and honey, as Yahweh the God of your fathers has promised you. 4When you have crossed over the Jordan, you are to set up these stones that I command you this day on Mount Ebal, and you are to plaster them with plaster. 5You are to build an altar to Yahweh your God there, an altar of stones; you are not to wield an iron *tool* on them. 6You are to build the altar of Yahweh your God of uncut stones, and you are to offer burnt offerings on it to Yahweh your God. 7When you offer peace offerings you are to eat them there; and you are to rejoice before Yahweh your God. 8You are to write very clearly on the stones all the words of this law.”

Curses From Mount Ebal

9Now Moses and the Levitical priests spoke to all Israel, saying, “Keep silence and listen, O Israel! This day you have become the people of Yahweh your God. 10So you are to obey the voice of Yahweh your God and keep his commandments and his statutes that I command you this day.”

11And Moses commanded the people the same day, saying, 12“When you have crossed over the Jordan, these *tribes* are to stand on Mount Gerizim to bless the people: Simeon, Levi and Judah; Issachar, Joseph and Benjamin. 13And these are to stand on Mount Ebal for the curse: Reuben, Gad and Asher; Zebulun, Dan and Naphtali. 14And the Levites are to answer and say to all the men of Israel with a loud voice:

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| 15 | ‘Cursed is anyone who makes a carved image or a cast image, an abomination to Yahweh, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and sets it up in secret.’  And all the people are to answer and say, ‘Amen!’ |
| 16 | ‘Cursed is anyone who dishonors his father or his mother.’  And all the people are to say, ‘Amen!’ |
| 17 | ‘Cursed is anyone who moves his neighbor’s boundary marker.’  And all the people are to say, ‘Amen!’ |
| 18 | ‘Cursed is anyone who leads a blind person astray on the road.’  And all the people are to say, ‘Amen!’ |
| 19 | ‘Cursed is anyone who denies the justice due to the foreigner, fatherless, or widow.’  And all the people are to say, ‘Amen!’ |
| 20 | ‘Cursed is anyone who lies with his father’s wife, because he has uncovered his father’s skirt.’  And all the people are to say, ‘Amen!’ |
| 21 | ‘Cursed is anyone who lies with any kind of animal.’  And all the people are to say, ‘Amen!’ |
| 22 | ‘Cursed is anyone who lies with his sister, the daughter of his father, or the daughter of his mother.’  And all the people are to say, ‘Amen!’ |
| 23 | ‘Cursed is anyone who lies with his mother-in-law.’  And all the people are to say, ‘Amen!’ |
| 24 | ‘Cursed is anyone who strikes down his neighbor in secret.’  And all the people are to say, ‘Amen!’ |
| 25 | ‘Cursed is anyone who takes a bribe to kill an innocent person.’  And all the people are to say, ‘Amen!’ |
| 26 | ‘Cursed is anyone who does not uphold the words of this law by doing them.’  And all the people are to say, ‘Amen!’” |

**Deuteronomy Chapter 28**

Blessings for Obedience

1“If you will listen, yes, listen to the voice of Yahweh your God, to be careful to do all his commandments that I command you this day, Yahweh your God will set you on high above all the nations of the earth, 2and all these blessings will come on you and overtake you if you will listen to the voice of Yahweh your God.

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| 3 | Blessed you will be in the city;  blessed you will be in the field. |
| 4 | Blessed will be the fruit of your womb,  the fruit of your ground,  and the fruit of your animals,  the increase of your livestock  and the young of your flock. |
| 5 | Blessed will be your basket and your kneading bowl. |
| 6 | Blessed you will be when you come in;  blessed you will be when you go out. |

7“Yahweh will cause your enemies who rise up against you to be struck down before you. By one road they will come out against you; by seven roads they will flee before you. 8Yahweh will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all that you put your hand to, and he will bless you in the land that Yahweh your God is giving you. 9Yahweh will establish you to be a holy people to himself, as he has sworn to you, if you will keep the commandments of Yahweh your God and walk in his ways. 10And all the peoples of the earth will see that you are called by the name of Yahweh, and they will be afraid of you. 11Yahweh will make you abound in good *things* in the land that Yahweh swore to your fathers to give you: in the fruit of your womb, and in the fruit of your livestock and in the fruit of your ground. 12Yahweh will open to you his good storehouse: the heavens, by giving the rain of your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but you will not borrow. 13Yahweh will make you the head, and not the tail, and you will be only the top, you will not be the bottom—if you listen to the commandments of Yahweh your God that I command you this day by being careful to do them, 14and do not turn aside from any of the words that I command you this day, to the right hand or to the left to go after other gods to serve them.

Curses for Disobedience

15“But if you will not listen to the voice of Yahweh your God by being careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you this day, all these curses will come on you and overtake you.

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| 16 | Cursed you will be in the city;  cursed you will be in the field. |
| 17 | Cursed will be your basket and your kneading bowl. |
| 18 | Cursed will be the fruit of your womb,  the fruit of your ground,  the increase of your livestock  and the young of your flock. |
| 19 | Cursed you will be when you come in;  cursed you will be when you go out. |

20“Yahweh will send against you Curse, Confusion, and Rebuke in all that you put your hand to do until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly on account of the evil of your deeds, because you have forsaken me. 21Yahweh will make the pestilence cling to you until he has finished you off from the ground that you are entering to possess it. 22Yahweh will strike you with wasting disease and with fever and with inflammation and with scorching heat and with drought and with blight and with mildew, and they will pursue you until you are destroyed. 23The heavens that are over your head will be bronze, and the earth that is under you will be iron. 24Yahweh will make the rain of your land powder and dust; from the heavens will it come down on you until you are destroyed. 25Yahweh will cause you to be struck down before your enemies. By one road you will go out against them; by seven roads you will flee before them, and you will be a *thing of* horror to all the kingdoms of the earth. 26Your dead body will be food for all birds of heaven and for the animals of the earth, and there will be no one to frighten them *away*.

27“Yahweh will strike you with the boils of Egypt, and with tumors, and with festering rash, and the itch, from which you cannot be healed. 28Yahweh will strike you with madness and with blindness and with confusion of heart, 29You will grope about at noonday as a blind person gropes in thick darkness, and you will not be successful in your ways; but you will be only oppressed and robbed all your days, and there will be no one to save you. 30You will betroth a woman, but another man will lie with her; you will build a house, but you will not dwell in it; you will plant a vineyard, but will not make use of its fruit. 31Your ox will be slaughtered before your eyes but you will not eat of it; your donkey will be violently taken away from before your face and will not be returned to you; your sheep will be given to your enemies, and you will have no one to save you. 32Your sons and your daughters will be given over to another people, and your eyes will look and fail with longing for them all day long, but your hand will have no power *to do anything*. 33A nation that you do not know will eat up the fruit of your ground and all your labor, and you will be only oppressed and mistreated all *your* days, 34and you will be driven mad by the sight of your eyes; *the things* that you see. 35Yahweh will strike you on the knees and on the thighs with evil boils from which you will not be able to be healed—from the sole of your foot to the crown *of your head*.

36“Yahweh will drive you and your king whom you have set over you to a nation that you have not known, not you or your fathers, and there you will serve other gods of wood and stone. 37You will become an *object of* horror, a proverb and a taunt among all the peoples where Yahweh will lead you away.

38“You will carry much seed out into the field but will gather little in, because the locusts will devour it. 39You will plant and care for vineyards, but you will not drink the wine or gather *the grapes*, for the worm will eat them. 40You will have olive trees throughout all your territory, but you will not anoint yourself with the oil, for your olives will drop off. 41You will father sons and daughters, but they will not be yours, for they will go into captivity. 42The locust will take possession of all your trees and the fruit of your soil. 43The foreigner who is in the midst of you will rise up above you higher *and* higher, and you will go down lower and lower. 44He will lend to you, but you will not lend to him: he will be the head, and you will be the tail.

45“All these curses will come on you and will pursue you and overtake you until you are destroyed, because you did not listen to the voice of Yahweh your God, to keep his commandments and his statutes that he commanded you. 46They will be for a sign and for a wonder upon you and upon your seed forever. 47Because you did not serve Yahweh your God with joyfulness and with gladness of heart because of the abundance of all things, 48therefore you will serve your enemies whom Yahweh will send against you, in hunger and in thirst and in nakedness and in lack of all things; and he will put a yoke of iron on your neck until he has destroyed you. 49Yahweh will raise up a nation against you from far away, from the end of the earth, swooping down like the eagle, a nation whose language you do not understand, 50a nation of fierce appearance that will not respect the elderly person, nor show mercy to the young. 51It will devour the fruit of your livestock and the fruit of your ground until you are destroyed; it will not leave you grain, new wine, or oil, the increase of your livestock or the young of your flock until it has caused you to perish. 52It will besiege you in all your gates until your high and fortified walls in which you trusted throughout all your land come down. and it will besiege you in all your gates throughout all your land that Yahweh your God has given to you.

53“Then you will eat the fruit of your womb, the flesh of your sons and of your daughters whom Yahweh your God has given to you, in the siege and in the distress with which your enemies will put you in distress. 54The man who is gentle among you and very sensitive, his eye will be evil toward his brother, and toward the wife of his bosom and toward the rest of his children whom he has remaining, 55so that he will not give to any of them some of the flesh of his children whom he will eat, because he has nothing left in the siege and in the distress with which your enemy will put you in distress in all your gates. 56The tender and delicate woman among you who would not venture to set the sole of her foot on the ground because of *her* delicateness and tenderness, her eye will be evil toward the husband of her bosom and toward her son and toward her daughter 57and toward the afterbirth that comes out from between her feet, and toward her children whom she bears; for she will eat them out of lack of everything, in secret, in the siege and in the distress with which your enemy will put you in distress in your gates.

58“If you are not careful to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, to fear this honorable and awe-inspiring name, Yahweh your God, 59then Yahweh will bring extraordinary afflictions against you, and afflictions against your offspring, great and long-lasting afflictions, evil and long-lasting sicknesses. 60He will bring on you again all the diseases of Egypt that you were afraid of, and they will cling to you, 61also every sickness and every affliction that is not written in this book of the law, Yahweh will bring them against you until you are destroyed. 62Then you will be left few in number, whereas you were as the stars of heaven for multitude, because you did not listen to the voice of Yahweh your God. 63And just as Yahweh took delight over you by doing good for you and multiplying your number, so Yahweh will take delight over you to cause you to perish and to destroy you, and you will be plucked from the ground that you are going in to possess. 64Yahweh will scatter you among all the peoples from the one end of the earth even to the other end of the earth, and there you will serve other gods—wood and stone—that you have not known, *neither* you nor your fathers. 65Yet among those nations you will find no repose, and there will be no rest for the sole of your foot, but Yahweh will give you there a trembling heart and failing of eyes and a languishing soul, 66and your life will hang in doubt before you, and you will be in dread night and day, and will have no assurance of your life. 67In the morning you will say, ‘I wish it were evening!’ and in the evening you will say, ‘I wish it were morning!’ because of the dread of your heart that you will be in dread about, and because of the sight of your eyes that you will see. 68Yahweh will bring you into Egypt again in ships, by the way of which I said to you, ‘You will see it again no more,’ and there you will sell yourselves to your enemies as male slaves and female slaves, but no one will buy you.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 29**

The Covenant Renewed in Moab

1These are the words of the covenant that Yahweh commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab, besides the covenant that he made with them in Horeb. 2Moses called to all Israel and said to them, “You have seen all that Yahweh did before your eyes in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, 3the great trials that your eyes saw, the signs and those great wonders; 4but Yahweh has not given you a heart to know, and eyes to see and ears to hear, until this day. 5I have had you walk for 40 years in the wilderness; your clothes have not grown old on you and your sandals have not grown old on your feet. 6You have not eaten bread, nor have you drank wine or beer, so that you know that I am Yahweh your God. 7When you came to this place, Sihon the king of Heshbon and Og the king of Bashan came out against us to battle, and we struck them down 8and we took their land and gave it as an inheritance to the Reubenites and to the Gadites and to the half-tribe of the Manassites. 9So you are to keep the words of this covenant and do them so that you will prosper in all that you do.

10“You are stationed *here* today, all of you, before Yahweh your God; your heads, your tribes, your elders and your officers, all the men of Israel, 11your little ones, your wives and your foreigner who is in the midst of your camp—from the one who cuts your wood to the one who draws your water— 12for you to cross over into the covenant of Yahweh your God and into his oath, which Yahweh your God makes with you this day; 13in order that he can establish you today for himself as a people and that he can be for you a God, as he spoke to you, and as he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. 14And it is not with you alone that I am cutting this covenant and this oath, 15but with the one who is standing here with us this day before Yahweh our God, and also with the one who is not here with us today.

Abandoning the Covenant

16“Indeed, you yourselves know how we lived in the land of Egypt, and how we crossed through the midst of the nations which you crossed through. 17and you have seen their abominations and their idols—wood and stone, silver and gold—that were among them. 18Beware lest there be among you a man or woman or clan or tribe whose heart turns away this day from Yahweh our God to go to serve the gods of those nations; lest there be among you a root bearing poisonous fruit and wormwood, 19and it happens that when he hears the words of this curse he blesses himself in his heart, saying, ‘I will have peace even though I walk in the stubbornness of my heart.’ This will lead to the sweeping away of well-watered *land* and the dry. 20Yahweh will not pardon him, but then the anger of Yahweh and his jealousy will smoke against that man and all the curses that are written in this book will crouch upon him, and Yahweh will blot out his name from under heaven. 21And Yahweh will single him out for adversity out of all the tribes of Israel in keeping with all the curses of the covenant that are written in this book of the law.

22“The generation to come, your children who will rise up after you and the foreigner who will come from a land far away, will say when they see the blows *dealt* to that land and the sicknesses with which Yahweh has made it sick, 23and *see* that the whole land is sulfur, salt, and burning, so that it is not sown nor productive, nor is any plant growing in it, like the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah, and of Admah and Zeboiim, which Yahweh overthrew in his anger and in his wrath, 24then all the nations will say, ‘Why has Yahweh done this to this land? What is the meaning of this great heat of anger?’ 25Then people will say, ‘Because they forsook the covenant of Yahweh, the God of their fathers, which he made with them when he brought them out of the land of Egypt, 26and they went and served other gods and bowed down to them,[[13]](#footnote-21222) gods that they did not know and that he did not assign to them. 27Therefore, the anger of Yahweh was kindled against this land to bring on it all the curses that are written in this book, 28and Yahweh rooted them out of their land in anger and in wrath and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as it is today.’ 29The secret things belong to Yahweh our God; but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 30**

Prosperity After Turning to Yahweh

1“When all these things have come on you, the blessing and the curse that I have set before you, and you take them to heart among all the nations where Yahweh your God has driven you 2and you return to Yahweh your God and listen to his voice in accordance with all that I command you this day, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul, 3then Yahweh your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you, and he will return *to you* and gather you from all the peoples where Yahweh your God has scattered you. 4If your banished *people* are in the uttermost part of the heavens, Yahweh your God will gather you from there, and from there he will bring you back; 5and Yahweh your God will bring you into the land that your fathers possessed and you will take possession of it; and he will make it go well for you and make you more numerous than your fathers. 6Yahweh your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your seed, to love Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul, so that you will live. 7Yahweh your God will put all these curses on your enemies and on those who hate you, who persecuted you. 8But you, *if* you will return and obey the voice of Yahweh and do all his commandments that I command you this day, 9then Yahweh your God will make you plenteous in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your womb, and in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your ground, for *your* good. For Yahweh will again rejoice over you for good, as he rejoiced over your fathers, 10if you listen to the voice of Yahweh your God by keeping his commandments and his statutes that are written in this book of the law; if you turn to Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

The Choice of Life and Death

11“For this commandment that I command you this day, it is not too hard for you, nor is it far away. 12It is not in heaven, so that you have to say, ‘Who will go up for us to heaven and bring it to us and have us listen to it so that we can do it?’ 13And it is not beyond the sea, so that you have to say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us and have us listen to it so that we can do it?’ 14But the word is very near to you; *it is* in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it. 15Behold, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil, 16in that I command you this day to love Yahweh your God, to walk in his ways and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his ordinances in order that you may live and multiply and that Yahweh your God may bless you in the land where you are entering to possess it. 17But if your heart turns away and you do not listen, but are drawn away and bow down to[[14]](#footnote-24147) other gods and serve them, 18I declare to you this day that you will surely perish; you will not prolong your days in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter to take possession of it. 19Today I call heaven and earth to be witnesses against you, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse; therefore choose life so that you will live—you and your seed— 20by loving Yahweh your God, by obeying his voice and by holding fast to him (for he is your life and the length of your days) so that you may live in the land that Yahweh swore that he would give to your fathers—to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 31**

Joshua to Succeed Moses

1And Moses went and spoke these words to all Israel. 2He said to them, “I am 120 years old today; I can no longer go out and come in, and Yahweh has said to me, ‘You will not cross over this Jordan.’ 3Yahweh your God, he will cross over before you; he will destroy these nations from before you and you will dispossess them. And Joshua will cross over before you, just as Yahweh has said. 4Yahweh will do to them just as he did to Sihon and to Og, the kings of the Amorites, and to their land, when he destroyed *them*. 5Yahweh will give them over to you, and you are to do to them according to every commandment that I have commanded you. 6Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not tremble because of them, for Yahweh your God, it is he who goes with you; he will not leave you or forsake you.”

7Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, “Be strong and courageous; for you will go with this people into the land that Yahweh has sworn to their fathers to give to them, and you will cause them to inherit it. 8Yahweh, it is he who goes before you; he will be with you, he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not be afraid, and do not be dismayed.”

Public Reading of the Law

9Moses wrote down this law and gave it to the priests, the sons of Levi who carried the ark of the covenant of Yahweh, and *also* to all the elders of Israel. 10Moses commanded them, saying, “At the end of every seven years, in the set time of the year of release, in the Feast of Booths, 11when all Israel has come to appear before Yahweh your God in the place that he will choose, you are to read this law before all Israel in their hearing. 12Assemble the people, the men and the women and the little ones, and *also* your foreigner who is inside your gates, so that they hear and so that they learn, and fear Yahweh your God and be careful to do all the words of this law, 13and that their children, who have not known, may hear and learn to fear Yahweh your God as long as you live in the land where you are crossing over the Jordan to take possession of it.”

Joshua Commissioned to Lead Israel

14Yahweh said to Moses, “Behold, your days approach that you will die. Call Joshua and present yourselves in the Tent of Meeting so that I may commission him.” So Moses and Joshua went and presented themselves in the Tent of Meeting. 15And Yahweh appeared in the tent in a pillar of cloud: and the pillar of cloud stood over the entrance of the tent.

16And Yahweh said to Moses, “Behold, you are about to sleep with your fathers; and this people will rise up and prostitute themselves with the foreign gods of the land where they are going to be among them, and will forsake me and break my covenant that I have cut with them. 17Then my anger will be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them and I will hide my face from them, and they will be devoured, and many evils and troubles will come on them, so that they will say in that day, ‘Haven’t these evils come upon us because our God is not among us?’ 18But I, I will hide, yes, hide my face in that day because of all the evil that they will have done, because they will have turned to other gods. 19So now write down this song for yourselves, and teach it to the children of Israel. Put it in their mouths in order that this song may be a witness for me against the children of Israel. 20For when I will have brought them into the land that I swore to their fathers, flowing with milk and honey, and they will have eaten and filled themselves and grown fat, then they will turn to other gods and serve them, and treat me with contempt and break my covenant. 21Then, when many evils and troubles have come upon them, this song will testify against them as a witness, for it will not be forgotten out of the mouths of their seed. For I know what they are inclined to do at this present time, *even* before I have brought them into the land about which I swore.” 22So Moses wrote down this song the same day, and taught it to the children of Israel.

23And he commissioned Joshua the son of Nun and said, “Be strong and courageous, for you will bring the children of Israel into the land about which I swore to them, and I will be with you.”

Moses Warns the People

24And when Moses had made an end of writing down the words of this law in a book until they were finished, 25Moses commanded the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant of Yahweh, saying, 26“Take this scroll of the law and put it by the side of the ark of the covenant of Yahweh your God, that it may be there as a witness against you. 27For I know your rebellion and your stiff neck. Behold, while I am still alive with you this day, you have been rebellious against Yahweh. How much more after my death! 28Assemble to me all the elders of your tribes, and your officials, so that I can speak these words in their ears and call heaven and earth to witness against them. 29For I know that after my death you will corrupt, yes, corrupt yourselves and turn aside from the way that I have commanded you; and evil will happen to you in the latter days because you will do what is evil in the eyes of Yahweh, making him angry by what your hands have made.” 30Moses spoke in the ears of all the assembly of Israel the words of this song, until they were finished:

**Deuteronomy Chapter 32**

Song of Moses

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| 1 | “Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak!  And hear, O earth, the words of my mouth! |
| 2 | My teaching will drop like the rain.  My speech will descend like the dew,  like the raindrops on the tender grass,  like the showers on the herb. |
| 3 | For I will proclaim the name of Yahweh.  Ascribe greatness to our God! |
| 4 | The Rock! His work is perfect,  for all his ways are just;  a God of faithfulness and without iniquity,  righteous and upright is he. |
| 5 | They have dealt corruptly with him.  They are not his children because of their defect. They are a perverse and crooked generation. |
| 6 | Do you repay Yahweh in this way,  O foolish and unwise people?  Is he not your father, your creator?  He has made you and established you. |
| 7 | Remember the days of old!  Consider the years, generation after generation.  Ask your father, and he will declare it to you;  *ask* your elders, and they will tell you. |
| 8 | When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance,  when he divided the children of men,  he set the boundaries of the peoples  according to the number of the sons of God.[[15]](#footnote-23480) |
| 9 | Indeed, Yahweh’s portion is his people.  Jacob is the lot of his inheritance. |
| 10 | He found him in a desert land,  in the wasteland, a howling wilderness.  He encircled him. He cared for him.  He kept him like the pupil of his eye. |
| 11 | Like an eagle that stirs up its nest,  that hovers over its young,  he spreads out his wings, he took them,  he carried them on his pinions. |
| 12 | Yahweh alone led him.  There was no foreign god with him. |
| 13 | He made him ride on the high places of the land.  And he ate the produce of the field.  And he made him suck honey from the rock,  and oil from the flinty rock; |
| 14 | butter from the herd and milk from the flock,  with the fat of lambs,  rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats,  with the finest of the wheat.  From the blood of the grape you drank wine. |
| 15 | But Jeshurun grew fat and kicked.  You have grown fat. You have grown thick. You have become gorged.  Then he forsook God who made him  and rejected the Rock of his salvation. |
| 16 | They moved him to jealousy with strange *gods*.  With abominations they made him angry. |
| 17 | They sacrificed to demons, not to God,  to gods that they did not know,  to new *gods* that came up recently  that your fathers did not fear. |
| 18 | The Rock who fathered you, you were unmindful *of him*,  and you have forgotten the God who birthed you. |
| 19 | Yahweh saw *this* and spurned *them*,  because of the provocation by his sons and daughters. |
| 20 | He said, ‘I will hide my face from them.  I will see what their end will be,  for they are a perverse generation,  children in whom is no faithfulness. |
| 21 | They have moved me to jealousy  with that which is not God.  They have made me angry by their worthless *idols*.  So I will move them to jealousy  with those who are not a people.  I will make them angry by a foolish nation. |
| 22 | For a fire is kindled in my nostrils;  it will burn to Sheol down below,  it will devour the earth with its produce  and it will set the foundations of the mountains on fire. |
| 23 | I will heap evils on them.  I will use up my arrows on them. |
| 24 | They will be wasted with hunger  and devoured with burning heat and bitter destruction.  I will send the teeth of animals against them,  with the venom of crawling things of the dust. |
| 25 | Outside the sword will make *people* childless,  and in the inner rooms, terror!  *Destroying* young man and virgin alike,  the nursing infant as well as the gray-haired man. |
| 26 | I would have said, I will cut them to pieces.  I will make their memory cease from among humankind, |
| 27 | except that I feared the provocation by the enemy,  lest their adversaries should misunderstand;  lest they say, “Our hand is exalted,  it was not Yahweh who has done all this.” |
| 28 | For they are a nation void of counsel.  There is no understanding in them. |
| 29 | If only they were wise, that they understood this,  that they would consider their latter end! |
| 30 | How could one chase 1,000,  and two put 10,000 to flight  unless their Rock had sold them,  and Yahweh had given them up? |
| 31 | For their rock is not as our Rock,  even though our enemies think so. |
| 32 | For their vine is from the vine of Sodom,  and from the fields of Gomorrah.  Their grapes are grapes of poison,  their clusters are bitter. |
| 33 | Their wine is the poison of serpents,  the cruel venom of vipers. |
| 34 | ‘Is this not laid up in store with me,  sealed up among my treasuries? |
| 35 | Vengeance is mine, and payback,  for the time when their foot slips,  because the day of their calamity is at hand,  and the things that are prepared for them are coming swiftly.’ |
| 36 | For Yahweh will vindicate his people  and have compassion on his servants  when he sees that their power is gone,  and there is none remaining *to help*, slave or free. |
| 37 | Then he will say, ‘Where are their gods,  the rock in whom they took refuge, |
| 38 | who ate the fat of their sacrifices  and drank the wine of their drink offering?  Let them rise up and help you!  Let them be your protection. |
| 39 | See now that I, even I, am he.  There is no god with me.  I kill and I make alive.  I wound and I heal.  There is no one who can deliver out of my hand. |
| 40 | For I lift up my hand to heaven *to swear,* and say,  “As *surely as* I live forever, |
| 41 | if I sharpen my flashing sword  and my hand takes hold on judgment,  I will return vengeance on my adversaries  and will pay back those who hate me. |
| 42 | I will make my arrows drunk with blood.  My sword will devour flesh  with the blood of the slain and the captives,  from the head of the leaders of the enemy.” |
| 43 | “Rejoice, O heavens, together with him;  bow down to him, all you sons of God,[[16]](#footnote-29976)  for he will avenge the blood of his servants.  He will return vengeance on his adversaries.  He will repay those who hate him[[17]](#footnote-29715)  and will make atonement for his land *and* for his people.” |

44Moses came and spoke all the words of this song in the ears of the people, he and Hoshea[[18]](#footnote-32114) the son of Nun. 45When Moses finished speaking all these words to all Israel, 46he said to them, “Take to heart to all the words that I am giving as a witness among you this day, and that you are to command your children so that they can be careful to do all the words of this law. 47For it is no empty word for you, because it is your life, and by this word you will prolong your days in the land that you are crossing over the Jordan to possess it.”

Moses to Die on Mount Nebo

48Now Yahweh spoke to Moses on that same day, saying, 49“Go up onto this mountain of the Abarim *range*, to Mount Nebo that is in the land of Moab that is opposite Jericho, and see the land of Canaan that I am giving to the children of Israel for a possession; 50and die on the mountain that you are going up, and be gathered to your people just as Aaron your brother died on Mount Hor and was gathered to his people: 51because you trespassed against me in the midst of the children of Israel at the waters of Meribah of Kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin, because you did not treat me as holy in the midst of the children of Israel. 52Indeed, you will see the land at a distance, but you will not go there, into the land that I am giving to the children of Israel.”

**Deuteronomy Chapter 33**

Moses' Final Blessing on Israel

1This is the blessing with which Moses the man of God blessed the children of Israel before his death. 2He said,

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|  | “Yahweh came from Sinai,  and dawned upon them from Seir.  He shone forth from Mount Paran.  He came with ten thousands of holy ones.  At his right hand there was flaming fire for them. |
| 3 | Indeed, he loves the people.  All his holy ones are in his hand.  They sat down at your feet;  each receives your words. |
| 4 | Moses commanded us a law,  a possession for the assembly of Jacob. |
| 5 | Let there be a king in Jeshurun,  when the heads of the people were gathered;  all the tribes of Israel together. |
| 6 | Let Reuben live, and not die;  but let his men be few in number. |

7And this he said about Judah:

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|  | ‘Hear, Yahweh, the voice of Judah. Bring him to his people.  With his *own* hands he contended for himself.  And may you be a help against his adversaries.’” |

8About Levi he said:

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|  | “Your Thummim and your Urim are with your godly one  whom you tested at Massah,  with whom you contended at the waters of Meribah; |
| 9 | who said of his father and of his mother,  ‘I have not seen them,’  nor did he recognize his brothers,  nor did he acknowledge his own children.  For they have kept your word,  and guarded your covenant. |
| 10 | They will teach Jacob your ordinances  and Israel your law.  They will put incense in your nose,  and whole burnt offering on your altar. |
| 11 | O Yahweh, bless his substance.  and accept the work of his hands.  Smash the loins of those who rise up against him, of those who hate him,  so that they do not rise *again*.” |

12About Benjamin he said:

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|  | “The beloved of Yahweh will dwell in safety by him.  He covers him all day long.  He dwells between his shoulders.” |

13About Joseph he said:

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|  | “His land is blessed by Yahweh,  by the choice things of heaven, by the dew,  and by the deep *waters* crouching beneath, |
| 14 | and by the choice things of the produce of the sun,  and by the choice things of the yield of the moon,[[19]](#footnote-15083) |
| 15 | and by the best things from the ancient mountains,  and by the choice things of the everlasting hills, |
| 16 | and by the choice things of the earth  and its fullness,  and the good will of him who dwelt in the *burning* bush.  Let this come on the head of Joseph,  on the top of the head of him who was separate from his brothers. |
| 17 | The firstborn of his herd, majesty is his.  His horns are the horns of the wild ox.  With them he will gore all of the peoples  to the ends of the earth:  They are the ten thousands of Ephraim.  They are the thousands of Manasseh.” |

18About Zebulun he said:

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|  | “Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going out;  and Issachar, in your tents. |
| 19 | They will call the peoples to the mountain.  There they will offer sacrifices of righteousness,  for they will draw out the abundance from the seas,  the hidden treasures of the sand.” |

20About Gad he said:

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|  | “He who enlarges Gad is blessed.  He dwells as a lioness  and tears the arm, yes, *and* the crown of the head. |
| 21 | He chose the best part for himself,  for there the lawgiver’s portion was reserved *for him*.  He came with the heads of the people.  He executed the righteousness of Yahweh,  his ordinances concerning Israel.” |

22About Dan he said:

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|  | “Dan is a lion’s cub  that leaps out from Bashan.” |

23About Naphtali he said:

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|  | “Naphtali, satisfied with favor,  full of the blessing of Yahweh;  take possession of the sea[[20]](#footnote-10612) and the south.” |

24About Asher he said:

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|  | “Most blessed of sons is Asher.  Let him be favored among his brothers.  Let him dip his foot in oil. |
| 25 | Your bars will be iron and bronze.  As your days, so your strength will be.” |
| 26 | “There is none like God, O Jeshurun,  who rides through the heavens to your help,  and through the skies in his majesty. |
| 27 | The eternal God is your refuge.  Underneath are the everlasting arms.  He thrust out the enemy from before you  and said, ‘Destroy!’ |
| 28 | So Israel will live in confidence;  alone, the fountain of Jacob,  in a land of grain and new wine,  yes, his heavens drop down dew. |
| 29 | O your happiness, O Israel!  Who is like you,  a people saved by Yahweh,  the shield of your help,  the sword of your majesty!  Your enemies will come cringing to you,  and you will trample on their high places.”[[21]](#footnote-11177) |

**Deuteronomy Chapter 34**

The Death of Moses

1Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of the Pisgah *range* that is opposite Jericho. Yahweh showed him all the land of Gilead to Dan, 2and all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah to the western sea, 3and the Negev and the Plain of the valley of Jericho, the City of Date Palms, to Zoar. 4Yahweh said to him, “This is the land that I swore to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your seed.’ I have caused you to see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over there.”

5So Moses the servant of Yahweh died there in the land of Moab according to the word of Yahweh. 6He buried him in the valley in the land of Moab over against Beth-peor, but no human knows of his tomb to this day. 7Moses was 120 years old when he died; his eye was not dim, nor had his vigor departed. 8The children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for 30 days; then the days of weeping in the mourning *ritual* for Moses were ended.

9Now Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him; and *so* the children of Israel listened to him and did as Yahweh commanded Moses. 10Since that time there has not arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom Yahweh knew face to face, 11in all the signs and the wonders that Yahweh sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, 12and in all the mighty hand and in all the great terrifying deeds that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

1. 13 1/2 feet long and 6 feet wide (4.1 meters long and 1.8 meters wide) [↑](#footnote-ref-13110)
2. The Sea of Galilee [↑](#footnote-ref-27663)
3. The Dead Sea [↑](#footnote-ref-28755)
4. Or “worship them” [↑](#footnote-ref-14933)
5. Or “worship them” [↑](#footnote-ref-21807)
6. Or “worship them” [↑](#footnote-ref-22457)
7. Or “the wells of the sons of Jaakan” [↑](#footnote-ref-25719)
8. Or “worship them” [↑](#footnote-ref-25638)
9. Or “worship them” [↑](#footnote-ref-13111)
10. Roughly 2.5 pounds (1.13 kilograms) [↑](#footnote-ref-20164)
11. Roughly 1.25 pounds (567 grams) [↑](#footnote-ref-19540)
12. Or “worship” [↑](#footnote-ref-30858)
13. Or “worshiped them” [↑](#footnote-ref-21222)
14. Or “worship” [↑](#footnote-ref-24147)
15. Heb. “sons of Israel” [↑](#footnote-ref-23480)
16. Qumran manuscript reading. MT has “O nations, with his people” [↑](#footnote-ref-29976)
17. This phrase is from the LXX and the Qumran texts. [↑](#footnote-ref-29715)
18. This is Joshua. [↑](#footnote-ref-32114)
19. Or “months” [↑](#footnote-ref-15083)
20. Or “west” [↑](#footnote-ref-10612)
21. Or “shrines” [↑](#footnote-ref-11177)