

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

A course in Biblical literacy

How to read...

DEUTERONOMY

Kim Walsh

Outline and Structure

- What's in a name?
- Structure: speeches; treaty; chiasmic
- Brief outline:
 - Ch 1-3: Historical review of wilderness wanderings
 - Ch 4 – 11: Call to covenant faithfulness
 - Ch 12-26: Detailed laws: instructions on worship; leaders; civil society; social justice
 - Ch 27-28: Blessings and curses for those who keep and break the law.
 - Ch 29-30: Review of the covenant and concluding challenge
 - Ch 31: Joshua to succeed Moses
 - Ch 32-33: A song for the future & final blessings
 - Ch 34: Death of Moses

Additional resources

- Deuteronomy (The NIV Application Commentary), Daniel I Block
- Deuteronomy (New International Biblical Commentary), Christopher Wright
- The Bible Project: www.thebibleproject.com

Some prominent themes

- 'the land the LORD your God is giving you': (1:21; 3:18; 4:1; 4:40; 5:33; 6:1, 3, 10; 7:1; 8:7, 10, 9:4-6; 11:12;31; 12:1, 10; 15:4, 7; 15:4, 7; 16:20; 18:9; 19:1-3; 21:23; 24:4; 25:15; 26:1-3; 27:2-3; 30:16,20; 31:3, 13)
- Covenant of love (Ch 5-7; 29)
- Laws for life in the new land (Ch 5; Ch12-26)
- Future failure, faithfulness & hope (Ch 30:1-10; 31:14-29;33)

Summary

- God gifted the land to Israel but Israel needed to take action to possess
- Loving committed relationship is at the heart of the covenant
- God intends His new nation is to be a model of wisdom & understanding to other nations
- Failure is predicted but so is God's faithfulness

Questions for discussion

1. The land God gave them (Ref: Ch:8:6 - 9:6):
 - What is the relationship between God, Israel and the land?
 - If the land was a gift from God why did the Israelites have to go in and possess it?
 - What warnings are stated? (see also 30:15-17)
2. Covenant (Ref: Ch6; 7:7-15):
 - What is the basis of the covenant?
 - Why did the covenant need renewing?
 - In what ways were Israel to actively remember the covenant & why was it necessary?
 - Any parallels for us today?

**DON'T
MISS...**

*How to read Joshua
with Stephen Williams*

**SUN 10th
MARCH**