

Deuteronomy I
The Obedience and Rebellions of Israel
Deuteronomy 8:1-20; 9:1-29

I. INTRODUCTORY THOUGHTS

A. Theme of the Chapters

- i. To Remember Their History (Deuteronomy 8:1-6; Deuteronomy 9:7-29)
- ii. To Remember the Gift of the Land (Deuteronomy 8:7-13)
- iii. To Remember the LORD (Deuteronomy 8:14-20)
- iv. To Remember the Commands (Deuteronomy 9:1-6)

B. Usage of Words

i. *"Thee"*

1. Used twenty-one (21 x) times in twelve (12) verses in chapter eight. (Deuteronomy 8:1; Deuteronomy 8:2; Deuteronomy 8:3; Deuteronomy 8:4; Deuteronomy 8:5; Deuteronomy 8:7; Deuteronomy 8:10; Deuteronomy 8:11; Deuteronomy 8:14; Deuteronomy 8:15; Deuteronomy 8:16; Deuteronomy 8:18)
2. *"Thee"* is used much throughout chapter eight.
3. Used eight (8 x) times in six (6) verses in chapter nine. (Deuteronomy 9:3; Deuteronomy 9:4; Deuteronomy 9:5; Deuteronomy 9:6; Deuteronomy 9:12; Deuteronomy 9:14)
4. *"Thee"* is used in chapter nine up till verse fourteen and then ceases from use in the remaining part of the chapter.

ii. *"I"*

1. Used three (3 x) times in three (3) verses in chapter eight. (Deuteronomy 8:1; Deuteronomy 8:11; Deuteronomy 8:19)
2. *"I"* is used sparingly through chapter eight.
3. Used twenty-one (21 x) times in fifteen (15) verses in chapter nine. (Deuteronomy 9:9; Deuteronomy 9:12; Deuteronomy 9:13; Deuteronomy 9:14; Deuteronomy 9:15; Deuteronomy 9:16; Deuteronomy 9:17; Deuteronomy 9:18; Deuteronomy 9:19; Deuteronomy 9:20; Deuteronomy 9:21; Deuteronomy 9:23; Deuteronomy 9:24; Deuteronomy 9:25; Deuteronomy 9:26)
4. *"I"* starts to be used at verse nine in chapter nine and is used much through the remaining part of the chapter.
5. *"I"* is used to refer to the LORD and Moses.

C. Usage of Phrases

i. *"Thou shalt"*

1. Used seven (7 x) times in six verses in chapter eight. (Deuteronomy 8:2; Deuteronomy 8:5; Deuteronomy 8:6; Deuteronomy 8:9; Deuteronomy 8:10; Deuteronomy 8:18)
2. Used zero (0 x) times in chapter nine.
3. Instead of “*thou shalt*” in chapter nine you see the use of the phrase “*thou art*”. You also see Moses transition from telling the Children of Israel what they are to do to what they had done (and what he had done) at Mount Horeb and beyond.
 - ii. “*Thou art*”
 1. Used two (2 x) times in two (2) verses in chapter nine. (Deuteronomy 9:1; Deuteronomy 9:6).
 - iii. “*Thou hast*”
 1. Used three (3 x) times in three (3) verses in chapter eight. (Deuteronomy 8:10; Deuteronomy 8:12; Deuteronomy 8:13)
 2. Used four (4 x) times in three (3) verses in chapter nine. (Deuteronomy 9:2; Deuteronomy 9:12; Deuteronomy 9:26)

II. TO REMEMBER THE LEADING OF THE LORD (Deuteronomy 8:1-6)

- A. To Remember How the LORD Had Lead Their Fathers (Deuteronomy 8:1)
 - i. In the commandments given to them
 - ii. In the promises made to them
- B. In Humbling and Chastening Them and Their Fathers (Deuteronomy 8:2-6)
 - i. To prove them (Deuteronomy 8:2; Exodus 13:3; Exodus 16:4; Deuteronomy 13:3)
 - ii. Humbled them by letting them hunger to rely on Him (Deuteronomy 8:3; Exodus 16:2-4; Exodus 16:12, 14)
 1. It showed their heart condition
 2. It showed they were full of murmurings and complaints (Exodus 16:12)
 - a. “*Murmur*”— defined: “*the quiet or subdued expression of a particular feeling by a group of people*”; *a condition in which the heart produces a recurring sound indicative of a disease or damage.*”
 - i. It is of interest to note that a “*murmur*” can be a diseased physical heart.
 - ii. In spiritual application when one murmurs, it is a sign of a spiritual heart problem. (Exodus 16:8)
 1. The people murmured against Moses and Aaron
 2. Their murmuring was really against God
 - b. Some died because of murmuring against God (1 Corinthians 10:10)
 3. It showed their greed (Exodus 16:20)

- a. They were only supposed to take that which was sufficient for their house
- b. What they would eat that day (Exodus 16:16-19)
- c. They were to take twice as much on the sixth day (Exodus 16:22-23)
4. Yet the Lord fed them all the way (Exodus 16:35)
5. To make them trust in the word of God (Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4; Luke 4:4)
- iii. Their raiment waxed not old upon them (Deuteronomy 8:4)
- iv. The chastening was for their benefit (Deuteronomy 8:5)
 1. To be chastened by the rod of man (2 Samuel 7:14)
 2. To despise not the chastening of the Lord (Job 5:17-18)
 3. Blessed if chastened by the Lord (Psalm 94:12)
 4. Loved if corrected by God (Proverbs 3:12)
 5. Judged so you will not be condemned (1 Corinthians 11:32)
 6. Corrected and chastened for love's sake (Hebrews 12:5-11)
- v. That they might keep the commandments of God (Deuteronomy 8:6)

III. THE BLESSINGS OF GOD (Deuteronomy 8:7-13)

- A. The Land and The Fruit Thereof (Deuteronomy 8:7-10)
 - i. A land of water (brooks, fountains, and springs)
 - ii. A land of wheat, barley, vines, fig trees, and pomegranates
 - iii. A land of olive oil, and honey
 - iv. Blessed because of the fruitfulness of the land (Deuteronomy 8:9)
 1. They would eat to their full
 2. They would not lack of any want
 - v. Commanded to bless the Lord for their fullness (Deuteronomy 8:10)
- B. The Fullness from the Land and Fruit (Deuteronomy 8:11-13)

IV. THE RESULTS OF PLENTY (Deuteronomy 8:14-20)

- A. A Forgetfulness From the People (Deuteronomy 8:14-18)
 - i. In danger of their heart being lifted up with pride (Deuteronomy 8:14)
 1. Thinking that they had done the work all themselves (Deuteronomy 8:14, 17)
 - a. Uzziah's heart was lifted up (2 Chronicles 26:16)
 - b. Hezekiah's heart was lifted up (2 Chronicles 32:25)
 2. Forgetting to thank the One that gave them all these good things (Psalm 106:21; Jeremiah 2:6, 31)
 - ii. Forgetting God who brought them to the land, out of bondage (Deuteronomy 8:14-15)
 1. By His glorious arm (Isaiah 63:12-14)
 2. Leading them through the wilderness (Psalm 136:16)

- B. The Results of Forgetting (Deuteronomy 8:19-20)
 - i. To walk after other gods, and serve them (Deuteronomy 8:19)
 - 1. Warned by God through Moses and Joshua (Deuteronomy 28:58-68; Deuteronomy 30:18-19)
 - 2. Warned by God through Samuel (1 Samuel 12:22-25)
 - ii. They would perish like the nations before them (Deuteronomy 8:20)
 - 1. No compassion given by their invaders (2 Chronicles 36:16-17)
 - 2. As given by the prophet Moses (Daniel 9:11-12)

- V. THE BATTLE TO TAKE THE LAND (Deuteronomy 9:1-6)
 - A. Strength That Can Only Come From the LORD (Deuteronomy 9:1-4)
 - i. The nations before them were mightier and greater than them (Deuteronomy 9:1-2)
 - 1. A people great and tall
 - 2. The children of the Anakims (Deuteronomy 9:2)
 - 3. The children of Anak (Numbers 13:32-33) (for more information see page 21 of the class notes [Deuteronomy I])
 - ii. The strength needed to overcome the inhabitants could only come from the LORD (Deuteronomy 9:3)
 - 1. It was by the strength of the LORD that they would conquer the inhabitants (Deuteronomy 9:3; Deuteronomy 1:30; Joshua 3:11, 14)
 - a. The power to overcome the inhabitants was in the LORD
 - b. The battle was / is the LORD's (1 Samuel 17:47; Romans 8:31, 37)
 - 2. As a consuming fire (Deuteronomy 9:3; Deuteronomy 4:24; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8)
 - B. Not Because of the Righteousness of the People (Deuteronomy 9:5-6)
 - i. The LORD was not giving them the land because of their goodness or their righteousness (Deuteronomy 9:5)
 - 1. The Canaanites were expelled because of their wickedness, the Israelites were not established in their room on account of any virtue, or because they deserved it.
 - 2. It is seen in history many times over that God will punish the wicked by the instrument of other men, who many times are as wicked as themselves.
 - 3. It was not the Israelites righteousness, but the wickedness of the inhabitants, and the promise of God to the fathers, that caused them to obtain Canaan. (Exodus 32:13)
 - 4. The example from the New Testament (Titus 3:5)
 - a. We obtain eternal life
 - b. Not because of our righteousness
 - c. Because of the righteousness of Christ

- ii. The LORD gave it as a possession, not for their righteousness, because they were stiffnecked (Deuteronomy 9:6)

VI. TO REMEMBER THEIR OWN DISOBEDIENCE (Deuteronomy 9:7-26)

- A. Their Sins in the Wilderness and in Horeb (Deuteronomy 9:7-17)
 - i. Provoking the LORD to wrath (Deuteronomy 9:7; Exodus 14:11; Exodus 16:2; Exodus 17:2; Numbers 21:5; Numbers 25:1-2)
 - ii. Even at Horeb (Deuteronomy 9:8-17; Exodus 32; Psalm 106:19-22)
 - 1. At the giving of the two tables of stone (the ten commandments)
 - 2. Moses having been with the LORD 40 days and 40 nights
 - 3. The LORD was ready to destroy them for their sinfulness, yet Moses mediated (Exodus 32:10-13)
 - 4. Because of Moses' intervention and the mercies of God, God did not destroy them (Nehemiah 9:16-20)
- B. Moses' Further Intervention (Deuteronomy 9:18-21; Exodus 34:28-30; Psalm 106:23)
- C. Their Later Sins (Deuteronomy 9:22-26)
 - i. At Taberah (Numbers 11:1-5)
 - ii. At Massah, and Meribah (Exodus 17:7)
 - iii. At Kibrothhattaavah (Numbers 11:4, 34)
 - iv. And at Kadeshbarnea (Deuteronomy 1:19-33)
 - v. Falling down before the LORD again for the people (Deuteronomy 9:25-26)

VII. MOSES' APPEAL TO THE LORD (Deuteronomy 9:27-29)

- A. To Destroy Not the People (Deuteronomy 9:27; Exodus 32:13)
- B. For God's Name Sake (Deuteronomy 9:28; Numbers 14:15-18)
- C. Because That They Are His Inheritance (Deuteronomy 9:29)