

Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy is the fifth and final book written by Moses, known as the Pentateuch It's essentially a long speech - Moses' farewell speech to the children of Israel before they enter into the promise land...this is also where Moses dies...and It's believed that the end of the the book is written by Joshua.

A few things about Deuteronomy

1. **Important to remember** - Moses loves these people, remember it's been 40 years and He knows he's not going into the land, He knows he's not gonna see them anymore...If you had knew you weren't gonna see people you loved
2. **Contents** - Deuteronomy consists of 34 chapters, 959 verses.
3. **Theme - Remember**
 - (1) Deuteronomy means "**Second Law**" - Now, it's not that Moses gave a new set of rules to the children of Israel, but rather it's him reiterating the Old law to the new generation
 - i) Remember, because of their disbelief and disobedience...the first gen didn't enter in
 - ii) So Moses is reiterating the old for to new set of people
 - iii) Thats striking considering the day and age we live in - An age of innovation and trends - in same ways that great, but there are some things that do not need innovation at all, in fact to add is to take away. the key example of this is the word of God

(2) In this book we have Moses teaching and calling these people to remember God's word because their parents had not done that for them, and that's why they didn't make it to promise land...because it wasn't valuable to them

- i) The Holy Spirit uses the word "**remember**" - 15 times in this book.
- ii) He uses the word "**forget**" - 14 times.
- iii) He uses the terms "**take heed**", "**be careful**", "**be diligent**", "**keep**", "**beware**", "**watch**" – a combined total of 74 times.

4. **Outline** - Deuteronomy is essentially three farewell messages. These messages are given over a period of a month

- i) **Deuteronomy 1-3** looks backwards. It's a review of the past.
- ii) **Deuteronomy 4-26** relating the Word of God to the present.
- iii) **Deuteronomy 27-34** deals with readiness for the future
- iv) So past, present, and future is addressed in the book of Deuteronomy

1. Deuteronomy 1-3 looks backwards. It's a review of the past

Deuteronomy 1

Deuteronomy 1:6 (ESV) ⁶ “The Lord our God said to us in Horeb, ‘You have stayed long enough at this mountain.

Moses is recounting for these the journeys of their parents...(they may have been little kids at the time) but He’s speaking about when they when the Lord finally told them to move...God said “**you’ve stayed at here long enough..It’s time to move**”

1. This is makes me think of **Ecclesiastes 3:1 (ESV) ¹ For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven**
2. God is in control of the seasons...and He will always moves us on in his timing...It might be a station in life, it might be something more significant...but when He says it’s time to move...Move

Deuteronomy 1:7 (ESV) ⁷ Turn and take your journey, **and go to the hill country of the Amorites and to all their neighbors in the Arabah, in the hill country and in the lowland and in the Negeb and by the seacoast, the land of the Canaanites, and Lebanon, as far as the great river, the river Euphrates.**

Moses is reminding them that God said to them, “This is the footprint of what I promised to Abraham and his descendants.” That geographical footprint is 300,000 square miles.

3. **Did you know** - At the hight of the nation Israel under King David and King Solomon **Israel only occupied 30,000 square miles.**
4. **Here’s the sad thing** - Israel at it’s highest point (King David/ Solomon) occupied at most **3000 miles...only 1/10 of all that God had promised them**
5. God had promised so much for the Children of Israel. And they never took possession of it. because of unbelief - disobedience - chasing after that were’t in the will of God\

6. And He's promised us so much more!!!

- (1) John Wendell - the stingiest millionaire in history - Wendell lived in New York City on Fifth Avenue. He refused to get married because he didn't want to share his wealth with a woman or leave his wealth to a woman. He actually persuaded his five sisters to remain unmarried their whole lives, and to live in the family residence there on Fifth Avenue. Wendell died in 1915.
- (2) One of his sisters died in 1931. When she died they discovered that she was worth 100 million dollars
- (3) She didn't own a car...She did not have electricity in her home. She didn't have or use a telephone, She owned 1 dress that she wore everyday.
- (4) **Moral of the story** - What good are riches, if you don't ever use them...the same is true spiritually, what good are God's promises to you if you never claim them as your own?

In Deuteronomy 1: 22 Moses reminds them of the 12 spies they sent out.

And then he reminds them of – what that people said upon hearing the report of the spies, and the Lord's response to what the people said in response to the report of the spies.

Deuteronomy 1:26–36 (ESV) ²⁶ “Yet you would not go up, but rebelled against the command of the Lord your God. ²⁷ And you murmured in your tents and said, ‘Because the Lord hated us he has brought us out of the land of Egypt, to give us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us. ²⁸ Where are we going up? Our brothers have made our hearts melt, saying, “The people are greater and taller than we. The cities are great and fortified up to heaven. And besides, we have seen the sons of the Anakim there.” ’ ²⁹ Then I said to you, ‘Do not be in dread or afraid of them. ³⁰ The Lord your God who goes before you will himself fight for you, just as he did for you in

Egypt before your eyes, ³¹ and in the wilderness, where you have seen how the Lord your God carried you, as a man carries his son, all the way that you went until you came to this place.’ ³² Yet in spite of this word you did not believe the Lord your God, ³³ who went before you in the way to seek you out a place to pitch your tents, in fire by night and in the cloud by day, to show you by what way you should go. ³⁴ “And the Lord heard your words and was angered, and he swore, ³⁵ ‘Not one of these men of this evil generation shall see the good land that I swore to give to your fathers, ³⁶ except Caleb the son of Jephunneh. He shall see it, and to him and to his children I will give the land on which he has trodden, because he has wholly followed the Lord!’

Conservatively 1.2 million people died in the wilderness during 37 1/2 years. That would be an average of – 85 funerals a day - 7 people dropping dead every hour.

1. For those thirty eight years death became a way of life...What a sober reminder for almost years that the “wages of sin is death.”

Deuteronomy 2 and 3

In these chapters Moses basically reviews – the places they went and the events they saw...and all of the things that we looked at in Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers

We’re going to take the off ramp in Deuteronomy 3 to take a look at an interesting guy who was king of Bashan. It’s in the north of Israel in what is today called – the Golan Heights. The king’s name was Og.

Deuteronomy 3:8–11 (ESV) ⁸ So 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 Hermon Sirion, while the Amorites call it Senir), ¹⁰ all the cities of the tableland and all Gilead and all Bashan, as far as Salecah and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan. ¹¹ **(For only Og the king of Bashan was left of the remnant of the Rephaim. Behold, his bed was a bed of iron. Is it**

not in Rabbah of the Ammonites? Nine cubits was its length, and four cubits its breadth, according to the common cubit.)

This bed was apparently so famous that it became a museum piece. Modern day Amman, Jordan is where that location would be.

1. And I just point this guy out so that we can understand. The Israelites really did have formidable adversaries. When the 12 spies went into the land, 10 of them referenced the size of the inhabitants. They said that they were the descendants of the Anakim. And they were not exaggerating. They didn't make an error in describing the size of men that they would have to go to battle against. **Their error was that – they measured these giant enemies alongside of themselves, instead of measuring these giants alongside of God**
2. *Martin Luther said this, "One with God is always a majority."*

In Deuteronomy 4-26 Moses reiterates and makes present application of all the laws, the requirements that we studied in Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers.

Deuteronomy 4

Here's the big theme - Moses is gonna make sure that their past doesn't just stay in their past, but actually makes an impact on their present

1. There have been times where i've caught myself saying too often "those were the days!" reminiscing too much, longing to often for the old experience...i've learned that people who do that too often have a hard time moving forward into the new seasons God had for them...Moses is saying "remember the past...but don't live in it"

Deuteronomy 4:1 (ESV) ¹ “And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you.

Just a quick passing note – You see, if they added to or took away from the commandments, they were no longer the commandments of the Lord, right? God does not want anyone messing with His Word

1. We live in a day and age where some would say they word of God does not fit into the context of our every changing culture and therefore needs to be changed or avoided or watered down
 - (1) on issues like human sexuality and his creative order
 - (2) But God never afforded us the luxury of doing that...If you change God’s word for whatever reason, it ceases to be God’s word...and it’s promise to give life is void
 - (3) **Here’s the point:** Don’t mess with God’s word
 - i) Even if it’s hard to understand...why? usually because we’re unreceptive to it
 - ii) *Mark Twain said this – “It’s not the parts of the bible that i don’t understand that bother me, it’s the parts I do understand”*

Deuteronomy 4:9 (ESV) ⁹ “Only take care, and keep 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. **Make them known to your children and your children’s children—**

A couple of parallel themes here – First of all – Beware lest you forget. Remember for yourself. But then also – Once you remember them, pass them along like a baton in a race to the next generation.

1. And here's the deal, Christians. We pass on what God has given to us

Deuteronomy 5-11 - are a reiteration and an exposition and application of the Decalogue, the Ten Commandments.

Deuteronomy 12-16 – are a reiteration and an explanation of the ceremonial laws that we looked at in the three prior books.

Deuteronomy 16-20 – are a reiteration of the civil laws of the books.

Deuteronomy 21-26 – are a reiteration of the social laws that we've seen.

Remember the theme - old truth repeated, old truth made relevant and applicable to a new generation.

Deuteronomy 6

this is a huge chapter, guys, a big, big chapter in all the Bible. It contains the heart of the Law.

In verses 4-9 Moses tells the people of the transcendent place of God in everything. And this a very, very important part, guys, for us to know where it's at in the Bible, because there are a lot of sincere Christians who process life in terms of God first.

Deuteronomy 6:1–5 (ESV) ¹ “Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, ² that you may fear the Lord your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. ³ **Hear** therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey. ⁴ “**Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.** ⁵ **You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.**

So there in verse 4 begins the famous Jewish confession of faith, called “The Shema”

“Shema” means – to hear - this became a very important prayer in Judaism said twice a day...

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is **one**.”

- A. That word “one” is the Hebrew word – ‘echad’. doesn’t mean an absolute singularity. It can also refer to a compound unity.
- B. It’s the same word used in – Genesis 2: “24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they (the two of them) shall become (echad) one flesh
- C. Marriage is a compound unity – two people, one flesh
- D. That word ‘echad’ is crucial to the doctrine of the Trinity, which states there is one God who eternally exists in three distinct persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit, each fully and equally God.

Deuteronomy 6:5 (ESV) ⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Guys, loving God is mentioned 11 times in the book of Deuteronomy – (6:5; 7:9; 10:12; 11:1, 13, 22; 13:3; 19:9; 30:6, 16, 20).

That’s more than any other Old Testament book.

It’s a big topic.

How are we to love God?

- A. With all our heart - The heart is the throne of the life - what ever sits on the throne of your hearts rules your life
- B. Proverbs 4:23 (ESV) ²³ Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

- C. If he has your heart, he'll have your soul/life
- D. If he has your heart, he'll have your might/passion

Deuteronomy 6:6–7 (ESV) ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

Understand where God wants his word to abide “on our hearts”

- A. It's more intellectual...it has to flow to the practical - to actually doing it! it does you know good to simply know the word...life is found in obedience to it
- B. Matthew 7:24–27 (ESV) ²⁴ “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and **does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.** ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”
- C. Living God's word out...thats what it's all about

⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Moses gives the best advice on raising your children in the ways of the lord:

1. It starts with the heart of the Parent
2. Teach it everywhere - In normal life
3. Repeat the process

Deuteronomy 6:8 (ESV) ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.

This speaks of always having God's law at the forefront of your mind

Now if you go to Israel today, you'll see Orthodox Jewish men wearing these things called phylacteries when they pray.

1. **Show Pic**
2. They wrap this leather stuff all around their arms, and onto their left hand. And this box will be there on their left hand. And then they do the same thing with their head. And when they're done it's sitting there, right between their eyes. And in these boxes were three portions of the Old Testament - all of that signifying that the Word of God was in their mind and before their eyes
3. What are we filling our minds with?
4. What is it that's before our eyes when we watch TV or when we're on the computer?

Deuteronomy 7

Moses tells the people of God that they are to deal aggressively with the sin in their hearts

Sin is utterly disastrous! We can't think lightly of sin. We can't deal lightly with sin.

Deuteronomy 8

Deuteronomy 8:1–2 (ESV) ¹ “The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers. ² **And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing**

you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.

Remember the theme: Remember

1. He's saying "Remember where you came from"
2. He's saying "Remember your failures"
3. He's saying "Remember God's faithfulness in delivering you"
 - a) Psalm 116: "7 Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you."
 - b) And then he says to God
 - c) Psalm 116: "8 For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling;"
 - d) And then notice the impact that the past goodness of God has on his present course of action.
 - e) Psalm 116: "9 I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living."
 - f) **Here's the point:** There is fresh faith for the present...found in remember God's faithfulness in the past

In Deuteronomy 8:3-4 Moses reminds them of all God did for them in the wilderness.

Now why the reminder? How could they forget the miraculous ways that God – led them, fed them, clothed them strengthened them – in the wilderness?

1. here's why - We tend to have a very selective memory when it comes to remembering the blessings of God.

2. *Charles Spurgeon put it like this – “Memory is very treacherous about the best things. with strange perversity, and engendered by the fall, it treasures up the refuse of the past and permits priceless treasures to be neglected. It is tenacious of grievances and holds benefits all too loosely. It needs spurring to its duty, though that duty ought to be its delight.”*
3. In other words - We glorify the garbage, while the true blessings of our lives often go unappreciated

Then Moses warns them of – the treacherous outcome of forgetting the goodness of God, the treacherous outcome of pride

Deuteronomy 8:11–19 (ESV) ¹¹ “Take care lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, ¹² lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, ¹³ and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴ then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵ who led you through the great and terrifying wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water, who brought you water out of the flinty rock, ¹⁶ who fed you in the wilderness with manna that your fathers did not know, that he might humble you and test you, to do you good in the end. ¹⁷ Beware lest you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.’ ¹⁸ You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day. ¹⁹ And if you forget the Lord your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish.

Deuteronomy 9 - the theme is humble yourself.

Deuteronomy 9:6–7 (ESV) ⁶ “Know, therefore, that the Lord your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stubborn people. ⁷ Remember and do not forget how you provoked the Lord your God to wrath in the wilderness. From the day you

came out of the land of Egypt until you came to this place, you have been rebellious against the Lord.

Moses reminds them of the golden calf incident – not a bright spot in those forty years.

Deuteronomy 9:15–17 (ESV) 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. ¹⁶ And I looked, and behold, you had sinned against the Lord your God. You had made yourselves a golden calf. You had turned aside quickly from the way that the Lord had commanded you. ¹⁷ So I took hold of the two tablets and threw them out of my two hands and broke them before your eyes.

Deuteronomy 10

Moses recounts how he received the second tablets of the Law from God. And then Moses essentially, in speaking to them, answers the question, “What does God really want from me?”

Deuteronomy 10:10–12 (ESV) ¹² “And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, **but to fear the Lord your God**, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul...

Now to fear the Lord does not mean that you stand in abject fear of God, terror of God.

1. To fear the Lord means to have a reverential awe that produces a humble submission to the God - a reverential awe that produces a humble submission to God
2. Why does God call us to fear him?
 - (1) **Because fear is a part of being human** - You gonna have it either way...so He says since your going to fear something

anyway, fear me (the one who is most worthy of being feared)

- i) **Matthew 10:28 (ESV) ²⁸ And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell**

(2) Fear creates strength - I've never been in a fight, I'm a little fearful of it, but I'm more afraid of someone hurting my family...and that would send me running fist first into a fight...even a losing fight

- i) The fear of God is the fear that cancels out all other fears
- ii) I remember I was mortified to teach, and i had a friend say to me...Just fear the Lord...and your'll be fine and every I had in caps "FEAR THE LORD AND YOU'LL BE FINE"

Deuteronomy 12-16 — are a reiteration and explanation of the ceremonial laws.

Deuteronomy 16-20 - are a reiteration of the civil laws

Deuteronomy 17:14 (ESV) ¹⁴ "When you come to the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, 'I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,'

God is telling them that there will come a time when they would rather be ruled by a king that they could see and touch than be ruled by the invisible King of Heaven.

And He tells them that there are 3 things he must never do, and 1 thing he must always do

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

Deuteronomy 17:16 Only he must not acquire many horses for himself or cause the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, since the Lord has said to you, 'You shall never return that way again.' 17 And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.

Just write the name **Solomon** there, because Solomon disobeyed all three of those. It didn't work out so well for him

Then here's the one thing the kings were supposed to do...

Deuteronomy 17:18 And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests

So, in other words, imagine – just put it into our world, okay – not just the Old Testament, but the New Testament. You become the ruler of God's people. Your job, the first thing you were supposed to do upon coronation, was to sit down and write for yourself in a book a copy of this Law. And the Levitical priests would go there, and say, "You got every word right." How important was it for a ruler to be in the Word and to know the Word? – that important

Deuteronomy 17:19 And **it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them,** 20 that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.

This is for anyone who God has given influence - husbands, parents, peer-leaders, employers.

1. Christians, you should be influenced by the Word of God so you can influence others.
2. Is the Word of God influential in your life?

Deuteronomy 18 — I'm taking you to chapter 18 because I want you to see the scarlet thread of redemption there. And then we're going to close it out with a brief thing at the end. We're going to see Jesus is promised in Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy 18:15 The Lord your God will raise up for you **a prophet like me from among you**, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen.

So last week in the book of numbers we hear balaam declare that a king would come...and now Moses says there will come a time in the future where **“a prophet like me”** will come

What does that mean? Think about this:

1. **Moses was a prophet.** He brought the Law of God to the people of God.
2. **Moses was a deliverer.** He led the Israelites out of bondage and death under Pharaoh
3. **Moses was an intercessor pleading with God on the behalf of sinful people.** - Remember Moses went to the Lord after they'd made that golden calf; and he said in **Exodus 32:31 ... this people have sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold. 32 But now, if you will forgive their sin—but If not, please blot me out of your book that you have written**
4. **A Moses-like deliverer is promised.** Guys, even to this day Orthodox Jews believe that this prophecy is speaking of the Messiah
5. **John 1:19 And this is the testimony of John (the Baptist), when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” 20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ” (“I am not the Messiah”). 21 And**

they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.”
“Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No”

6. They’re pressing him – “Are you the Prophet?” - “the Prophet” is “the prophet” that Moses just was speaking about
7. You can write Acts 3:22 in the margin of your Bible as well. Peter quoted this very verse, letting the people know that Jesus is the fulfillment of the words of Moses in Deuteronomy 18:15.
8. Here's the point - Moses was great! But Jesus is greater!

Deuteronomy 27-34 – readiness for the future.

Deuteronomy 27 - Moses predicts their future, both near and far – what’s going to happen immediately, what will happen ultimately

In Deuteronomy 27 Moses tells them that as soon as they get into the Promised Land they were to go to a specific place, right in the geographical heart of the land – Samaria, near Shechem, Mount Ebal to the north, Mount Gerizim to the south. The valley between the two mountains formed a natural amphitheater where the priests and the Levites would assemble and declare God’s Words.

From Mount Gerizim, the blessings of the Law were proclaimed. From Mount Ebal, the curses of the Law were proclaimed.

- A. As the curses of the Law were proclaimed, they were not merely predicting what would happen if the people disobeyed God. When God sent judgment to His people for their sins, He was doing what the people had agreed for Him to do.
- B. Remember? When Moses came down, and he says, “This is what the Lord has said”, they said, “We agree”.
- C. They were calling upon the Lord to send these curses on His people if His people turned away from Him. And so when the people said,

“Amen”, after each statement, they were saying, “so be it”, they were telling God that they were willing to be chastened if they disobeyed Him.

D. Their “Amen” wasn’t just their agreement with the words spoken; it was their acceptance of the terms of the covenant

Deuteronomy 28:1 And **if** you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. 2 And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, **if** you obey the voice of the Lord your God

There is a gigantic little word in that passage – it’s the little word - “**if**”. That little word is gigantic because it signifies that this is something conditional

Deuteronomy 28 and 29 have that gigantic little word all through them

Deuteronomy 28:15 But **if** you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.... 20 The Lord will send on you curses, confusion, and frustration in all that you undertake to do, until you are destroyed and perish quickly on account of the evil of your deeds, because you have forsaken me

Now please note - Moses is not predicting the end of the nation. God had promised the land to Abraham and his descendants forever. Now they are poised to enter the land that God had promised to Abraham. He is reminding them of that covenant.

Now there are two kinds of covenants between God and man.

1. **One is an unconditional covenant** - an everlasting covenant. There is nothing man can do to nullify that covenant. It’s a matter of God's word. God stakes His name on it - **Hebrews 6:13 (ESV)**
¹³ For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself...

2. And because the covenant is rooted in the name and character of God - it's going to happen (**Hebrews 6:18**)
3. God promised the land to Abraham and his descendants forever. Make a note of this, guys – **OWNERSHIP WAS AN UNCONDITIONAL COVENANT...BUT OCCUPATION WASN'T**
4. **Here's the point:** Those are the ifs that Moses is speaking to them - The land is yours forever - but when you turn your back on me you're not going to be able to live there!

Deuteronomy 32 - contains the Song of Moses. It's really interesting to think of him singing all of this. In it he recounts the faithfulness of God and Israel's weakness.

If anyone is going to write a song about your life and my life, that would be the content – the faithfulness of God, and our weaknesses.

Deuteronomy 33 - Moses prophetically blesses the children of Israel.

Deuteronomy 34 - records the death of Moses. Moses didn't make it into the Promised Land. But check this out, guys - Jesus sneaks him in. I love that.

1. **In Matthew 17 Moses, along with Elijah will meet with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration – what grace!** I'm going to close with this observation that provides the link between the Deuteronomy and the book of Joshua
2. So don't think of a 120-year old guy, shriveled up, just barely gasping for breath. His vigor was not abated. He was as strong as he was when he was living in the house of Pharaoh. He was as strong as he was when he was living on the backside of the wilderness. He wasn't losing his vision. His physical strength wasn't abated. Moses could have led them into the land. But God would not allow him. And we know the back story on that

3. **But there's a big picture of the Gospel in this.** In the eyes of Israel Moses represented the Law. He was revered as the greatest of all the prophets because Moses brought the Law of God to Israel
4. The man who represented the Law would not be the one who brought the people into the promise
5. A man named Joshua, the Hebrew name, **Yeshua, the Greek name, Jesus** - was the God's man to bring them into the promise of fellowship with God, eternal life
6. **John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.**