

Deuteronomy Lesson #22, Chapter 27-28

Seek the Lord's help and wisdom as you begin your lesson.

1. What promises were made in Deuteronomy 26:16-19?
2. Chapters 27 and 28 describe the blessing and cursing ceremony. Read Deuteronomy 11:26-32; 27:1-13; and Joshua 8:30-35. What is the sequence of events for this ceremony and who is included in it?
3. Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim are twin mountains with the city of Shechem laying at the base of Mt. Ebal. God never does anything without a reason and His choosing the area of Shechem for this ceremony is no exception. Read Genesis 12:6-7 and note why this very spot would have been significant to the Israelites.
4. What law was Israel to write on the stones once they had entered the land (27:3, 8)?
5. Deuteronomy 27:9 says, *This day you have become a people for the Lord your God.* Weren't they *already* God's chosen people (see Deuteronomy 4:20; 14:2)? If so, then what is the point of this ceremony? What is happening here that will be a defining factor for the nation? See Deuteronomy 26:16-19.
6. Since becoming a Christian have you ever had times where you reevaluated your life and committed yourself afresh to obeying and following the Lord? How have those times proved valuable in your life?

7. What is the proportion of blessings to curses in Chapters 27 and 28? What reason could there be for that proportion?

8. The curses of 27:16-25 restate many of the laws we have studied in the previous chapter, but 27:26 is a little different. What does it say? What areas of life does this command include that wasn't covered in the ones previously listed?

9. Paul used Deuteronomy 27:26 in Galatians 3:10. How did he use it and what was he explaining to the church at Galatia (see Galatians 3:1-14)?

10. What will God do for the nation if they are careful to keep His commandments (28:1-2)?

11. One of the incredible results of obeying God is found in 28:9-10. What is it?

12. The Scriptures attest to the unchangeableness of God's character and that His purposes remain constant. How do Titus 2:14 and 1 Peter 2:9-11 echo that same purpose of God to create a holy people?

13. Deuteronomy 28:45-47 gives the reason for the curses. What do you learn?

14. Look at Deuteronomy 28:47 again. Notice how God wants to be served.

15. If you obey *without* joy and a glad heart, what does that reveal about your *true* attitude toward God? Are you really obeying if you have a bad attitude?

16. Read Deuteronomy 28:58. What observations about God can you make from this verse?

17. Think about how you like people to use your name when they are talking to you or even about you; now think about how you address God or speak of Him to others. Does your use of His name reveal a deep respect and awe for God Himself? Are there any areas you need to work on so that your life and your words reflect a proper reverence for God?

18. Even with the threat of the curses hanging over them, the Israelites were not able to follow the Lord fully. Why not? See Romans 4:1-8 and Hebrews 11:6.

19. What hope do you have of being able to follow the Lord fully? Check out Ephesians 2:1-10 for starters.

20. Moses concludes the covenant regulations in Deuteronomy 29:1. What role did he play in the covenant between God and Israel? From whom do the covenant stipulations come?

By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;
My soul, believe and doubt it not;
Why stagger at this word of promise?
Hath Scripture ever falsehood taught?
Nay; then this word must true remain:
By grace thou, too, shalt Heav'n obtain.

By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;
Our works and conduct have no worth,
God in His love sent our Redeemer,
Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;
His death did for our sins atone,
And we are saved by grace alone.

By grace! O, mark this word of promise
When thou art by thy sins oppressed,
When Satan plagues thy troubled conscience,
And when thy heart is seeking rest.
What reason cannot comprehend
God by His grace to thee doth send.

By grace! This ground of faith is certain;
So long as God is true, it stands.
What saints have penned by inspiration,
What in His Word our God commands,
What our whole faith must rest upon,
Is grace alone, grace in His Son.

By Christian L. Scheidt, 1742