

# DEUTERONOMY – INTRODUCTION

## I. TITLE OF THE BOOK:

- A. In the Hebrew Bible, this book is entitled, “HADDEBHARIM” – “The Words.”
  - 1. Taken from the opening verse: “These are the words which Moses speak unto all Israel beyond the Jordan in the wilderness...” (1:1).
  - 2. The history and legislation of earlier books are reviewed in Deuteronomy as a basis for the words of admonition.
- B. In our Bible, the word “DEUTERONOMY” is taken from the Greek “DEUTEROS” (Second) and NOMOS (law).
  - 1. The title which the Septuagint translators gave the book when they translated the Old Testament into Greek in the third century B.C.
  - 2. The book does not literally contain a second law, but a new expounding of the Law of Moses to a new generation.

## II. AUTHOR OF THE BOOK

- A. Moses
  - 1. Paul referred to Moses’ writings as inspired of God (Rom. 10:5-8, Deut. 30:12-14; Rom. 15:10, Deut. 32:43).
  - 2. Jesus relied on Deuteronomy as *infallible Scripture* from God (“*it is written*” when being tempted by the Devil (Matthew 4:4-10, cf. Jn. 10:34-35, Deut. 8:3, Deut. 6:16, Deut. 6:13).
  - 3. Peter- “*Moses indeed said...*” (Acts 3:22, Deut. 18:15).
  - 4. Stephen – “*This is that Moses who said...*” (Acts 7:37, Deut. 18:15).
  - 5. Jesus – Moses commanded to give a “*bill of divorcement*” (Matt. 19:7-8, Deut. 24:1-5)
- B. Events after Moses’ life probably compiled by Joshua (Chapter 34).

## III. FEATURES OF THE BOOK

- A. Book features primarily three addresses to the people delivered by Moses in the eleventh month of the fortieth year after the Exodus (1-28).
  - 1. First Address (introductory) (1:6-4:43)
    - a. A review of where the people have come.
  - 2. Second Address (4:44-26:19)
    - a. Exhortations from the Law
  - 3. Third Address (27:1 – 28:68)
    - a. Curses and blessings pronounced
- B. Renewal of the Covenant in the plains of Moab and the exhortations to keep it (29:1-30:20).
- C. The CHARGE of Moses to Joshua and the Levites (Chapter 31)
- D. The SONG of Moses about God and Israel (Chapter 32)

- E. The BLESSING of Moses upon the tribes of Israel (Chapter 33)
- F. The DEATH of Moses on Mount Nebo (Chapter 34)
- G. The book of TRANSITION:
  - 1. to a new generation – the old generation died in the wilderness; a new generation to go into the promised land.
  - 2. a new possession – wilderness wandering to a new company in Canaan.
- H. The Book emphasizes God’s LOVE (4:37, 7:7-8, 10:15, 23:5).
- I. The Book emphasizes God’s FAITHFULNESS (Deut. 6:23)
- J. The Book lays down the foundational fact for keeping the Law (Deut. 6:4-5).
- K. The Book emphasizes man’s choice (Deut. 30:19-20).

**IV. OUTLINE OF STUDY**

- A. Lesson One (**1:1-4:43**)
- B. Lesson Two (**4:44-7:26**)
- C. Lesson Three (**8:1-11:32**)
- D. lesson Four (**12:1-15:23**)
- E. Lesson Five (**16:1-18:22**)
- F. Lesson Six (**19:1-23:25**)
- G. Lesson Seven (**24:1-26:19**)
- H. Lesson Eight (**27:1--30:20**)
- I. Lesson Nine (**31:1-32:52**)
- J. Lesson Ten (**33:1-34:12**)