

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

Deuteronomy

INTRODUCTION

Title: in Hebrew: *Devarim* — “Words” (1:1)

In the Septuagint (LXX): *Deuteronomion* —
“Second Law” (17:18)

Author: Moses

Theme: Explanation of the Law to a new generation.

Purpose: Moses exhorted Israel to be faithful to Yahweh and to the Sinaitic Covenant so that she might go in and possess the Land, though He foretold that Israel would fail to obey Yahweh in the Land (1:5).

KEY DATES

- 40th yr and 11th month
after leaving Egypt ~ 1406
B.C. (1:3).

OUTLINE

- I. The First Discourse — Past/What God has done (1-4)
 - A. In guiding from Horeb to Kadesh-Barnea (1)
 - B. In guiding from Kadesh to Moab (2-3)
 - C. In guiding toward obedience (4)

OUTLINE

II. The Second Discourse — Present/What God expects (5-26)

A. Exposition of the Decalogue (5-11)

B. Exposition of statutes (12 - 16:17)

C. Exposition of judgments (civil & social)
(16:18-26)

OUTLINE

III. The Third Discourse — Future/
What God will do (27-30)

OUTLINE

IV. The Historical Appendix — Transition of the Covenant Mediator (31-34)

A. Exhortation of Moses (31)

B. Song of Moses (32:1-47)

C. Blessing of Moses (32:48 - 33:29)

D. Death of Moses (34)

KEY CHAPTERS

5 Decalogue reiterated

6 "Shema" - Hear O Israel . . .

18 Against witchcraft, coming Prophet

28 Blessings and Cursings

32 Song of Moses

34 Death of Moses

KEY PASSAGES

4:2 Don't add or subtract from the word

6:4-9 Shema

13:1-5 Test and death for false prophets

21:18-21 Death for incorrigible children/
rebel

KEY PASSAGES

22:28-29 Laws concerning seductions/
lay=marry

24:1-4 Regulation of divorce/remarriage
issue

29:29 "secret things belong to the Lord. . ."

32:39 God governs life & death; sovereignty
"I kill/make alive; wound/heal"

KEY PEOPLE

Moses - Prophet of the highest order, Lawgiver, deliverer of Israel. Author of the Pentateuch; Moses is prominent from Exodus through Deuteronomy.

Joshua - Moses' servant and successor. A great military leader who led the people into the promised land.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

- Eugene Merrill, *Deuteronomy* ((New American Commentary series).
- Daniel Block, *Deuteronomy* (NIV Application Commentary)

SELECTED INTERPRETIVE PROBLEMS

1. yhwh elohenu yhwh ehad – “Yahweh our God Yahweh one” (6:4)

A. “Yahweh is our God, Yahweh alone” {uniqueness}

B. “Yahweh our God, Yahweh is one” {wholeness, unity}

C. “Yahweh is our God, Yahweh is one” (NASB)

D. “Yahweh our God is one Yahweh”

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SELECTED INTERPRETIVE PROBLEMS

2. The Structure of the Laws Given in Deuteronomy

12:1-25:16

A. A Disparate Collection of Legal Stipulations without any Structure, Unity, or Order

B. A Structure Dictated by the Order of the Commandments in the Decalogue

SELECTED INTERPRETIVE ISSUES

THE DECALOGUE AND DEUTERONOMY

Deuteronomy 5	Commandment	Deuteronomy	Description
5:6-10	1-2	12:1-31	Worship
5:11	3	13:1-14:27	Name of God
5:12-15	4	14:28-16:17	Sabbath
5:16	5	16:18-18:22	Authority
5:17	6	19:1-22:8	Homicide
5:18	7	22:9-23:19	Adultery
5:19	8	23:20-24:7	Theft
5:20	9	24:8-25:4	False Charges
5:21	10	25:5-16	Coveting

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SELECTED INTERPRETIVE ISSUES

3. The Nature of the Law

A. Divided

- Moral Law
- Ceremonial Law
- Civil Law

B. Unified (James 2:10; Gal 5:3; Matt 5:19)

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4. The Covenant(s) of 29:1-30:20

- A. The Palestinian Covenant
- B. The Sinaitic Covenant
- C. The Sinaitic and the New Covenants
- D. The New Covenant

SELECTED INTERPRETIVE ISSUES

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- B. The Sinaitic Covenant
- C. The Sinaitic and the New Covenants
- D. The New Covenant**

SELECTED INTERPRETIVE ISSUES

5. The order of the 10 Commandments

A. Reformed Protestant

B. Eastern Orthodox & Jewish

C. Roman Catholic & Lutheran

Commandment	Jewish (Talmudic)	Anglican, Reformed, and other Christians	Orthodox and Other Christian	Roman Catholic, Lutheran
I Am the Lord your God	1	Preface	1	1
You shall have no other gods before Me		1		
You shall not make for yourselves an idol	2	2	2	
Do not take the name of the Lord in vain	3	3	3	2
Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy	4	4	4	3
Honor your father and mother	5	5	5	4
You shall not kill/murder	6	6	6	5
You shall not commit adultery	7	7	7	6
You shall not steal	8	8	8	7
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor	9	9	9	8
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife	10	10	10	9
You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor				10

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