

## SESSION 21: DEUTERONOMY INTRODUCTION

---

### A. Background

1. *Israel is now on the Plains of Moab.*
2. *They are at the end of the 40 years of delay.*
  - a. *Israel is at the edge of the land- About 10 miles from Jericho.*
  - b. *Conquest will begin in less than 3 months*
3. *Joshua has already been designated as the leader for the conquest.*
4. *Moses calls on the nation to renew the covenant of Sinai.*
  - a. *Not a new covenant simply a renewal of commitment.*

### B. Importance of the book.

1. *To the Old Testament the book holds the key information to interpreting the history and prophecy.*
2. *In the New Testament, Deuteronomy is the most often quoted portion of the Law.*

### C. Key features of the book.

1. *Book contains written records of addresses given by Moses.*
  - a. *This accounts for the difference in style from the rest of the Pentateuch.*
2. *Like the book of Leviticus the book is almost entirely law.*
  - a. *In Leviticus the law is primarily directed to the priests.*
  - b. *In Deuteronomy the law is for the whole nation.*
3. *Book is a review. Although it is called a "second law" no new legislation is introduced.*

### D. Moses acts in this book as a prophet.

1. **Mood is very solemn.**
  - a. *Moses is about to depart*- This is his last chance to speak.
  - b. *Moses is aware of the weakness of the people.*
    - i. Sin with Baal Peor is only weeks before.
    - ii. He knows how quickly they can turn aside.
  - c. *Moses knows that two tendencies war against success.*
    - i. Pride
    - ii. Idolatry
  - d. *He also understands by revelation that Israel will depart in the future.*
  - e. *He knows the terrible consequences that will bring.*
2. **Book has four basic parts. "Reminder" is a key word in each part.**
  - a. Review of the History 1-4
  - b. Review of the Law 5-26
  - c. Reminder of the Options 27-31
  - d. Moses' Final Days 32-34
3. **Moses not only reviews the law but gives keys to understanding its principles.**
  - a. *Moses is preaching* - Exhorting the people to obey God.
  - b. *All leads to the application in Deut. 30:15:*  
"See I have yet before you life and prosperity and death and adversity in that command you today to love the Lord your God to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes...  
**Choose life.**"

## Assignment

Read through the section on the reminder of the options to Israel. Read through the section and note carefully how much Israel's experience in the future is tied to their obedience to God.