**DEUTERONOMY**

**The Preparation for the Promised Land**

(week of 09/17/20)

The next section of our Walk Through the Bible is the book of Deuteronomy.

**Here’s what you need to KNOW:**

Deuteronomy is the fifth book of Moses. The five books of Moses (Genesis-Deuteronomy) are collectively known as “The Pentateuch.” The word “Deuteronomy” means “second law” or, “repetition of the law.” As such, Deuteronomy contains a retelling of the Israel’s history and law.

The historical purpose of Deuteronomy was to prepare the people for their entry into the Promised Land. The book contains a collection of addresses that Moses delivered about 40 years after the Israelites had left Egypt. As such, Moses was speaking to the next generation – the generation who would actually enter the land.

Moses’ words are designed to remind the people of their history and the laws that were to govern their personal and corporate lives. He says that if they placed reverence for God and obedience to His principles at the center of their efforts that it would go well for them. There was also an emphasis placed on ensuring that each generation passed on to subsequent generations both the history of God’s faithfulness and the call to obey His precepts.

Moses, who started out as a reluctant representative of God had turned out to be an excellent leader and communicator. He knew that he was speaking to the group of people who would actually enter the promised land – and, he knew the task would be difficult. Moses also knew that while he would see the land, he would not be the one who would lead them into the land. So, wanting to influence and prepare them for what was ahead, Moses delivered these messages as a way of expanding their confidence in God’s presence and to remind them to get the job done, God’s way.

Moses knew that he was near the end of his life and that these would be his final words to the people. The earnest emotion that this knowledge generated can be felt in his words.

Deuteronomy concludes with Moses getting a mountain top view of the Promised Land, followed by his death and direct burial by the hand of God. The final words of Deuteronomy, which are also the final words of the Pentateuch, give this evaluation of Moses’ contribution: ***“Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face, who did all those signs and wonders the Lord sent him to do in Egypt—to Pharaoh and to all his officials and to his whole land. For no one has ever shown the mighty power or performed the awesome deeds that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.”***

**Key OBSERVATIONS –**

Moses says this to everyone, but especially, parents… ***Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. (6:5-6)***

And, then he says that a well-lived life becomes a credible platform to influence others, especially, our children… ***Impress them on your children.***

And, that the best way to do that is through teachable moments… ***Talk about these commandments when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. (6:7)***

Why? Because it’s in their best interest to do so.
Doing life God’s way is not only right, but also good for us. ***“Be careful to obey, so that it may go well with you…***

***Do what is right and good in the Lord’s sight, so that it may go well with you.” 6:3,18***

**GET GOING!**

**Continue your personal Walk Through the Bible by taking a hop, skip and a jump through Deuteronomy.**