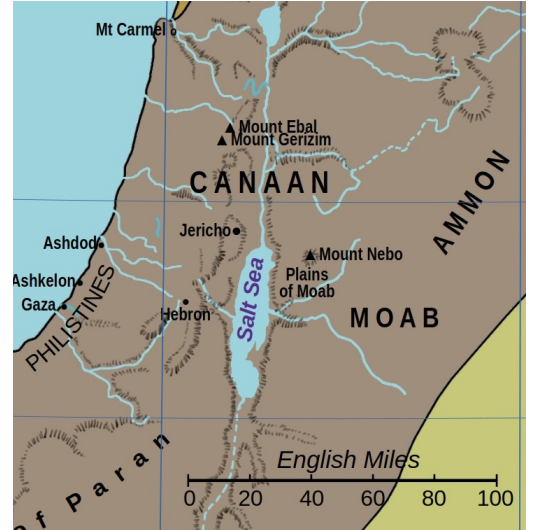


1. AUTHOR

Q. What do you know about *Deuteronomy* [From Greek Bible, meaning a second giving of the law. Hebrew title: 'These are the words', as per 1:1]?

- *Mark 12:26* And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses [Gen – Deu], in the passage about the bush, how God spoke to him, saying, ... ESV

A. Moses wrote it. Deuteronomy is the final part of the 'Book of Moses' ca. 1406 BC. It is mainly law, but contains some narrative at the each end. It was spoken by Moses (1:1), then written down (31:9) by him, and completed by an unknown author.



2. ONE KEY THEME – ‘LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD’ 6:5

3. A KEY VERSE?

- *Deuteronomy 6:5* You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ESV

Q. How can we be sure? **A.** :

- *Matthew 22:36* “Teacher, which is the great[est]¹ commandment in the Law?”³⁷ And he [Jesus] said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart ... ESV

4. THREE KEY GROUPS OF PEOPLE

1. Moses (an imperfect ‘type’ of Christ)
2. Joshua (another type)

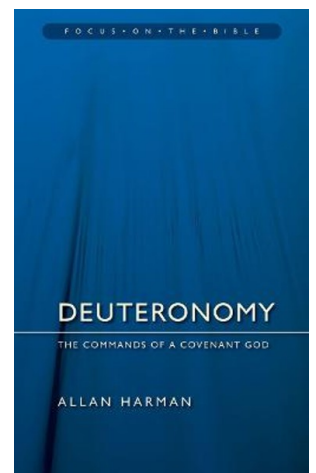
3. God’s people, who are about to enter the promised land (a type)

5. TEXTUAL STRUCTURE OF DEUTERONOMY


From '*Deuteronomy – The Commands of a Covenant God*' by Allan Harman, CF, 2001.

'When the covenant made at Sinai (see Exodus 20-24) is compared with ... treaty and legal patterns the resemblance in order is remarkable. Even more striking is the way in which the book of Deuteronomy reflects this whole pattern.' p10.

As can be seen from the following table, Harman's structure provides much greater insight than the traditional division into three sermons by Moses.



¹ Correctly translated as a superlative (Moule, *An Idiom-Book of NT Greek*, Cambridge, pp97-98).

2 ND MILLENNIUM BC HITTITE LEGAL TREATY FORMAT	CHAPTERS IN DEUTERONOMY	CONTENT IN DEUTERONOMY	TRADITIONAL DIVISION (NOT FROM HARMAN OP. CIT.)	
1. Preamble, identifying the king ...	1 - 4	'The LORD your God' used 239 times in Deuteronomy.	1 st Sermon (1 – 4)	
2. Historical survey, outlining events leading up to ...		Recapitulation of Exodus, Sinai, rebellion, desert wanderings, etc.		
... the treaty (or covenant)	5	The covenant; The 'Ten Commandments' ² .	2 nd Sermon (5 – 28)	
3. Stipulations required of those giving allegiance ...	6 - 26	Shema and Expansion of the Ten Commandments ³ :-	 <p>1. No other gods 2. No Idols 3. God's name 4. Work and rest 5. Honour parents 6. No Murder 7. No Adultery 8. No Stealing 9. No Lying 10. No Coveting</p>	
	6 to 2 6	6 - 11		1 st Commandment
		12 - 13		2 nd Commandment
		14		3 rd Commandment
		15 – 16 ¹⁷		4 th Commandment
		16 ¹⁸ - 18		5 th Commandment
		19 - 22 ⁸		6 th Commandment
		22 ⁹ - 23 ¹⁴		7 th Commandment
		23 ¹⁵ - 24 ¹⁵		8 th Commandment
		24 ⁸ - 25 ⁴		9 th Commandment
25 ⁵ - 26		10 th Commandment		
4. Curses and blessings ... for disobedience or obedience	27 - 28	Curses and blessings	3 rd Sermon (29 – 33)	
	29 - 30			
5. Arrangements for seeing that the covenant was continued in succeeding generations.	31 - 33	Provisions for covenant life under Moses' successor, Joshua.	Death of Moses (34)	
	34			

6. GREAT EVENTS

Deuteronomy consists of mainly law framed by some narrative. In the narrative:

- Moses gives a history lesson to introduce God's law a second time (1-4).
- The giving of the (augmented) Old Covenant law a second time (5-26), including, and based upon, the ten commandments.
- Moses gives blessings and curses to be pronounced by the 12 tribes from Mount Gerizim and Mount Ebal respectively (27 – 28).
- The appointment of Joshua to succeed Moses (31)
- Moses pronounces blessings on Israel from Mount Nebo (33).
- The death of Moses on Mount Nebo (34)

² See 4:13; 10:4 and Exodus 24:28. 'his covenant, the Ten Commandments' in 4:13.

³ But with frequent reminders of previous material and other miscellany.

7. DEUTERONOMY IS PART OF THE 'THE OLD COVENANT'

This means that nowadays we do not have to obey all the regulations (literally; See Hebrews 8:13). However, Deuteronomy makes the connection between God's law and our hearts, between obeying God and loving him. Chapters 6 and 30 have a particularly spiritual emphasis.

As the law is rehearsed, there is also a special focus on social concerns such as the protection of the individual (5:17), of women (22:13ff), of foreigners (24:14), and even of animals (25:4) – Some 21st Century sensibilities are curiously in tune with Deuteronomy.

8. ONE SHAPE – GOD'S LAW IN OUR HEARTS

The 'Shema' (meaning 'Listen!'⁴ from 6:5)

- 6:4-9 *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. ESV*



Q1. What would be a wrong way to obey the Shema?

6:8,9

Q2. What are the right ways to obey it?

6:5

6:7

6:8

6:9



A phylactery

4 For some reason, even modern translations have 'Hear' instead of 'Listen'.

9. JESUS IN DEUTERONOMY?

Q. Where is Jesus in Deuteronomy? A. Everywhere. Some examples:

- Jesus is pictured by Moses when he intercedes for the people repeatedly (9:25; Cf. Hebrews 7:25). Moses did it for 40 days, Jesus – for ever:

Deuteronomy 9:25 “So I lay prostrate before the Lord for these forty days and forty nights, because the Lord had said he would destroy you.

Hebrews 7:25 Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost[completely] those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

- The various altars and sacrifices remind us of Jesus' ultimate sacrifice for sin (Hebrews 10:4).
- Just as Moses expounded (explained) the ten commandments in Deuteronomy 5 – 26, so Jesus expounded them in the sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5 – 7).
- Moses blessed the 12 tribes (33), then died, and they mourned him (34:5-8), but Jesus blessed the 12⁵ disciples (Luke 24:50-52), and ascended into heaven as they worshipped him.
- Moses was an inadequate type of Jesus, having sinned⁶ (32:51) and was succeeded by Joshua. Any single type of Christ is inadequate.
- The covenant blessings being pronounced twice on Mount Nebo which is the same place that Moses dies is really poignant, given how much blessing comes from Jesus' death.
- Joshua (whose name is the same as Jesus in the Greek Bible) is *filled with the Spirit* (34:9) and leads the people (1:38; Hebrews 12:2).

10. AND NOWADAYS?

We too must have God's law in our hearts, lives and families (6:5ff), through following Jesus, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

11. HOMEWORK: READ DEUTERONOMY

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Contact: www.trinitychurch.tc/contact

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⁵ Minus Judas Iscariot at this point.

⁶ Also, Aaron.