

Timeline of Truth – God’s Prepares Israel for a New Leader (Deuteronomy 31)

Focus	First Sermon 1:1-4:43	Second Sermon 4:44-26:19				Third Sermon 27:1-34:17		
Divisions	Review of God's Acts for Israel 1:1-4:43	The Exposition and Expansion of the Ten Commandments 4:44-11:32	Ceremonial Laws 12:1-16:17	Civil Laws 16:18-20:20	Social Laws 21:1-26:19	Ramification of covenant 27:1-28:68	Palestinian Covenant 29:1-30:20	Transition of Covenant Mediator 31:1-34:12

<p>Deuteronomy 31:1 Then Moses went and spoke these words to all Israel. ² And he said to them: "I <i>am</i> one hundred and twenty years old today. I can no longer go out and come in. Also the LORD has said to me, 'You shall not cross over this Jordan.'</p>	<p>1. God Declares the _____ of Moses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Moses is old (120) b. Moses can no longer go out or come in c. God told Moses he would not cross the river
<p>³ "The LORD your God Himself crosses over before you; He will destroy these nations from before you, and you shall dispossess them. Joshua himself crosses over before you, just as the LORD has said. ⁴ "And the LORD will do to them as He did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites and their land, when He destroyed them. ⁵ "The LORD will give them over to you, that you may do to them according to every commandment which I have commanded you.</p>	<p>2. God Promises to Be With _____</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. God promises to cross over before Israel b. God promises to destroy the nations c. God promises that Joshua will lead them d. God reminds them of past battles e. God promises to give them over to Israel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order that they would do to them what God commanded them to do
<p>⁶ "Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He <i>is</i> the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."</p>	<p>3. God Encourages Israel to Be _____</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Four commands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be strong - חָזַק - <i>chazaq</i> - be or grow firm, strong, strengthen • Be of good courage - אָמַץ - <i>ametz</i> - be stout, strong, bold, alert • Do not fear - יָרֵא - <i>yare</i> - fear • Do not be afraid - אַרַץ - <i>artz</i> - cause to tremble, tremble (in terror, or awe) <p>1 Corinthians 16:13 ¹³ Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.</p> <p>Ephesians 6:10 ¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.</p> <p>2 Timothy 1:7 ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.</p> b. Why? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lord is God • The Lord goes with Israel • The Lord will not leave or forsake Israel <p>Hebrews 13:5 ⁵ <i>Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."</i></p>

<p>⁷ Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and of good courage, for you must go with this people to the land which the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it. ⁸ "And the LORD, He is the one who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed."</p>	<p>4. Moses Encourages Joshua to Be _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Two Commands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be strong Be of good courage The purpose <ul style="list-style-type: none"> He must go with the people to the land He must cause them to inherit it The Promise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> God will go before him God will be with him God will not leave or forsake him Additional commands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not fear Do not be dismayed - חָתַתָּ – <i>chatat</i> - be shattered, dismayed
<p>⁹ So Moses wrote this law and delivered it to the priests, the sons of Levi, who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and to all the elders of Israel. ¹⁰ And Moses commanded them, saying: "At the end of every seven years, at the appointed time in the year of release, at the Feast of Tabernacles, ¹¹ "when all Israel comes to appear before the LORD your God in the place which He chooses, you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing. ¹² "Gather the people together, men and women and little ones, and the stranger who is within your gates, that they may hear and that they may learn to fear the LORD your God and carefully observe all the words of this law, ¹³ "and that their children, who have not known it, may hear and learn to fear the LORD your God as long as you live in the land which you cross the Jordan to possess."</p>	<p>5. God Commands Israel to _____ the Law</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Moses wrote a copy Moses delivered it to the priests, Levites and elders It was to be read every seven years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the appointed time in the year of release At the feast of Tabernacles When the nation was gathered together The purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To hear and fear the Lord To carefully observe the words of the law To teach it to their children
<p>¹⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, the days approach when you must die; call Joshua, and present yourselves in the tabernacle of meeting, that I may inaugurate him." So Moses and Joshua went and presented themselves in the tabernacle of meeting. ¹⁵ Now the LORD appeared at the tabernacle in a pillar of cloud, and the pillar of cloud stood above the door of the tabernacle.</p>	<p>6. God _____ Joshua</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God reminds Moses he is about to die Moses and Joshua were to meet at the Tabernacle God would inaugurate Joshua <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lit. "command him to walk" Moses and Joshua obeyed God's command God appeared at the Tabernacle as a pillar of cloud.
<p>¹⁶ And the LORD said to Moses: "Behold, you will rest with your fathers; and this people will rise and play the harlot with the gods of the foreigners of the land, where they go to be among them, and they will forsake Me and break My covenant which I have made with them. ¹⁷ "Then My anger shall be aroused against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide My face from them, and they shall be devoured. And many evils and troubles shall befall them, so that they will say in that day, 'Have not these evils come upon us because our God is not among us?' ¹⁸ "And I will surely hide My face in that day because of all the evil which they have done, in that they have turned to other gods.</p>	<p>7. God Predicts Israel's _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Israel will forsake God and His law God's anger will be aroused <ul style="list-style-type: none"> God will forsake them God will hide His face from them God will allow them to be destroyed God will allow evil and trouble to come upon them Why? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Because they had done evil Because they had turned to other gods
<p>¹⁹ "Now therefore, write down this song for yourselves, and teach it to the children of Israel; put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for Me against the children of Israel. ²⁰ "When I have brought them to the land flowing with milk and honey, of which I swore to their fathers, and they have eaten and filled themselves and grown fat, then they will turn to other gods and serve them; and they will provoke Me and break My covenant. ²¹ "Then it shall</p>	<p>8. God Tells Moses to Write a _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Moses is to write the song and teach it to Israel The song is to be a witness for God against them This song is in response to Israel's rebellion The Israelites will remember the song Moses obeyed immediately

<p>be, when many evils and troubles have come upon them, that this song will testify against them as a witness; for it will not be forgotten in the mouths of their descendants, for I know the inclination of their behavior today, even before I have brought them to the land of which I swore <i>to give them.</i>" ²² Therefore Moses wrote this song the same day, and taught it to the children of Israel.</p>	
<p>²³ Then He inaugurated Joshua the son of Nun, and said, "Be strong and of good courage; for you shall bring the children of Israel into the land of which I swore to them, and I will be with you."</p>	<p>9. God _____ Joshua</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. He inaugurated Joshua – lit. "He charged/commanded Joshua" b. Two commands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be strong • Be of good courage c. Two reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joshua will bring Israel into the land • God will be with Joshua
<p>²⁴ So it was, when Moses had completed writing the words of this law in a book, when they were finished, ²⁵ that Moses commanded the Levites, who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD, saying: ²⁶ "Take this Book of the Law, and put it beside the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there as a witness against you; ²⁷ "for I know your rebellion and your stiff neck. <i>If today, while I am yet alive with you, you have been rebellious against the LORD, then how much more after my death?</i> ²⁸ "Gather to me all the elders of your tribes, and your officers, that I may speak these words in their hearing and call heaven and earth to witness against them. ²⁹ "For I know that after my death you will become utterly corrupt, and turn aside from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in the latter days, because you will do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger through the work of your hands."</p>	<p>10. Moses Gives the Levites the _____ of the Law</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Moses finishes the book: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He gives the book to the Levites • He commands them to put it by the ark of the covenant b. The book is to be a witness against Israel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because they have been rebellious • Because they will become more rebellious c. Moses calls the elders and leaders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heaven and earth are to be a witness against them • Israel will rebel and turn from God • Evil will befall them • Because of the evil they had done
<p>³⁰ Then Moses spoke in the hearing of all the assembly of Israel the words of this song until they were ended:</p>	<p>NEXT WEEK: We Will Look at the Content of the Song</p>

Additional Thoughts:

1. Why was Joshua chosen to replace Moses?

Exodus 17:9-10, 13-14 ⁹ And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand." ¹⁰ So Joshua did as Moses said to him, and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. ¹³ So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword. ¹⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this *for* a memorial in the book and recount *it* in the hearing of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven."

Exodus 24:13 ¹³ So Moses arose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up to the mountain of God.

Exodus 33:11 ¹¹ So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle.

Numbers 14:6-9 ⁶ But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, *who were* among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; ⁷ and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: "The land we passed through to spy out *is* an exceedingly good land. ⁸ "If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, 'a land which flows with milk and honey.' ⁹ "Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for they *are* our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD *is* with us. Do not fear them."

Numbers 27:18-19 ¹⁸ And the LORD said to Moses: "Take Joshua the son of Nun with you, a man in whom *is* the Spirit, and lay your hand on him; ¹⁹ "set him before Eleazar the priest and before all the congregation, and inaugurate him in their sight.

Numbers 32:10-12 ¹⁰ "So the LORD's anger was aroused on that day, and He swore an oath, saying, ¹¹ 'Surely none of the men who came up from Egypt, from twenty years old and above, shall see the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, because they have not wholly followed Me, ¹² 'except Caleb the son of Jephunneh, the Kenizzite, and Joshua the son of Nun, for they have wholly followed the LORD.'

2. How are we to choose out leaders?

Acts 6:2-3 ² Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. ³ "Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of *good* reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business;

1 Timothy 3:1 ff This *is* a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. ² A bishop then must be blameless,...

2 Timothy 2:1-2 You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ² And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Titus 1:5-6 ff ⁵ For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you -- ⁶ if a man is blameless,...

1 Corinthians 4:1-2 Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ² Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.