

Deuteronomy – A New Generation

Discussion #5

1. Did your parents or grandparents ever pass any good advice on to you?
2. Read Deuteronomy 1:1 and 5. Where did this sermon take place? Now turn to John 1:28 and 10:40-41. What other popular figures preached from this area? Do you think there is any significance to this?
3. Read Deut. 1:32-39. Moses is talking about a generation that had done evil and directs the accusation toward his audience (“*You* did not believe the LORD”). Was Moses’ audience really the generation who had disobeyed the LORD? Why do you think Moses uses the second rather than the third person in this description? See Deut. 5:2-3.
4. Read Deut. 4:9-10. Moses commands the people to relate their experiences of the LORD to their children. What faith memories do you have that you should share with the next generation?
5. Read Deut. 3:24, 4:15-20, 4:24. Why do you think Moses reiterates these truths for the people of Israel? What does it mean that God is a “jealous God”?
6. Read Deut. 5:6-10. Why do you think that the LORD starts out with verse 6? Why not just start out with the commands?
7. Read Deut. 6:4-9. Verse 4 is known as the Great Shema and is used still to this day in Judaim almost like our Apostles Creed. What does the LORD tell them to do with these words? What is the benefit of boiling all of Scripture down into short, memorizable statements?
8. Read Deut. 6:13, 16; 8:3. Do you recognize any statements here? Compare Matthew 4:1-11. Do Jesus’ quotations of Scripture say anything in particular about Deuteronomy? Are there books of the Bible that are more important than others?
9. End with a “popcorn prayer”. Decide on one person to open the prayer time and another person to close. In between anybody else can “pop in” with their prayers.

More Discussion Questions

10. Read Deut. 10:19-20. How were the Israelites to treat “sojourners” or “immigrants” in their day? Does this still apply to us today?

11. Read Deut. 12:1-7. Was is it important *where* the Israelites worshiped? What about today – does God still locate Himself in places today?

12. Read Deut. 18:15-22. Who fulfilled this prophecy? Do we still have prophets today?

13. Read Deut. 21:22-23. Compare Galatians 3:13. How was Christ a “curse” for us?

14. Read Deuteronomy 34:1-6. It is significant that the first five books of the Bible, known as the Books of Moses or the Torah or the Pentateuch, ends with this chapter. If it ended with chapter 33, Moses would have the last word and the story would seem to be about Moses, the great hero of Israel. But who gets to have the last word and close out this most important section of Scripture? Notice in verse 6 who buried Moses.

15. There are many commentaries in the New Testament about how we should regard Moses and his books. See John 5:39 where Jesus refers to the Scriptures, i.e. the Old Testament books. Are the Old Testament books about human heroes like Moses and Elijah or someone else?

16. Another commentary on Moses, the human hero, is the Transfiguration account. Read Luke 9:28-36. Peter wanted to set up shelters or booths for Moses, Elijah, and Jesus – thereby putting them on equal footing. In this account, Moses and Elijah stand for the “Law and the Prophets” (the two main sections of the Old Testament). Who does the voice from the cloud tell us to listen to? And therefore, what are the Old Testament Scriptures good for still today – to tell us about the great heroes of the faith or to point us to Jesus?