

Deu chapters 29, 30 and 31

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Deu chapter 29 ^{Deu 29:1-29}

¹ These *are* the words of the covenant, which YHVH commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab, beside the covenant which he made with them in Horeb.

² And Moses called unto all Israel, and said unto them, Ye have seen all that YHVH did before your eyes in the land of Egypt unto Pharaoh, and unto all his servants, and unto all his land;

³ The great temptations which thine eyes have seen, the signs, and those great miracles:

⁴ Yet YHVH hath not given you an heart to perceive, and eyes to see, and ears to hear, unto this day.

⁵ And I have led you forty years in the wilderness: your clothes are not waxen old upon you, and thy shoe is not waxen old upon thy foot.

⁶ Ye have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink: that ye might know that I *am* YHVH your God.

⁷ And when ye came unto this place, Sihon the king of Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, came out against us unto battle, and we smote them:

⁸ And we took their land, and gave it for an inheritance unto the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to the half tribe of Manasseh.

⁹ Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do.

¹⁰ Ye stand this day all of you before YHVH your God; your captains of your tribes, your elders, and your officers, *with* all the men of Israel,

¹¹ Your little ones, your wives, and thy stranger that *is* in thy camp, from the hewer of thy wood unto the drawer of thy water:

¹² That thou shouldest enter into covenant with YHVH thy God, and into his oath, which YHVH thy God maketh with thee this day:

¹³ That he may establish thee to day for a people unto himself, and *that* he may be unto thee a God, as he hath said unto thee, and as he hath sworn unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

¹⁴ Neither with you only do I make this covenant and this oath;

- ¹⁵ But with *him* that standeth here with us this day before YHVH our God, and also with *him* that *is* not here with us this day:
- ¹⁶ (For ye know how we have dwelt in the land of Egypt; and how we came through the nations which ye passed by;
- ¹⁷ And ye have seen their abominations, and their idols, wood and stone, silver and gold, which *were* among them:)
- ¹⁸ Lest there should be among you man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turneth away this day from YHVH our God, to go *and* serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall and wormwood;
- ¹⁹ And it come to pass, when he heareth the words of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying, I shall have peace, though I walk in the imagination of mine heart, to add drunkenness to thirst:
- ²⁰ YHVH will not spare him, but then the anger of YHVH and his jealousy shall smoke against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him, and YHVH shall blot out his name from under heaven.
- ²¹ And YHVH shall separate him unto evil out of all the tribes of Israel, according to all the curses of the covenant that are written in this book of the law:
- ²² So that the generation to come of your children that shall rise up after you, and the stranger that shall come from a far land, shall say, when they see the plagues of that land, and the sicknesses which YHVH hath laid upon it;
- ²³ *And that* the whole land thereof *is* brimstone, and salt, *and* burning, *that* it is not sown, nor beareth, nor any grass groweth therein, like the overthrow of Sodom, and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboim, which YHVH overthrew in his anger, and in his wrath:
- ²⁴ Even all nations shall say, Wherefore hath YHVH done thus unto this land? what *meaneth* the heat of this great anger?
- ²⁵ Then men shall say, Because they have forsaken the covenant of YHVH God of their fathers, which he made with them when he brought them forth out of the land of Egypt:
- ²⁶ For they went and served other gods, and worshipped them, gods whom they knew not, and *whom* he had not given unto them:
- ²⁷ And the anger of YHVH was kindled against this land, to bring upon it all the curses that are written in this book:
- ²⁸ And YHVH rooted them out of their land in anger, and in wrath, and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as *it is* this day.
- ²⁹ The secret *things belong* unto YHVH our God: but those *things which are* revealed *belong* unto us and to our children for ever, that *we* may do all the words of this law.

Deu chapter 30 ^{Deu 30:1-20}

¹ And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call *them* to mind among all the nations, whither YHVH thy God hath driven thee,

² And shalt return unto YHVH thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul;

³ That then YHVH thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither YHVH thy God hath scattered thee.

⁴ If *any* of thine be driven out unto the outmost *parts* of heaven, from thence will YHVH thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee:

⁵ And YHVH thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers.

⁶ And YHVH thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love YHVH thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.

⁷ And YHVH thy God will put all these curses upon thine enemies, and on them that hate thee, which persecuted thee.

⁸ And thou shalt return and obey the voice of YHVH, and do all his commandments which I command thee this day.

⁹ And YHVH thy God will make thee plenteous in every work of thine hand, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy land, for good: for YHVH will again rejoice over thee for good, as he rejoiced over thy fathers:

¹⁰ If thou shalt hearken unto the voice of YHVH thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, *and* if thou turn unto YHVH thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.

¹¹ For this commandment which I command thee this day, it *is* not hidden from thee, neither *is* it far off. ¹² It *is* not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

Nehemia Gordon talks about this as a criticism of Rabbinical Judaism.

ABM

Rule 1: even YHVH must obey the Rabbis see Pesikta Rabbati, Section 3

Rule 2: it is not in heaven. In [Deu 30:11-12](#) it's plain, but the Rabbis interpret this differently.

before applying rule 2

Deu 30:11-12 KJV ¹¹ For this commandment which I command thee this day, it *is* not hidden from thee, neither *is* it far off. ¹² It *is* not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

after applying rule 2

Deu 30:11-12 KJV **11** For this commandment which I command thee this day, it ~~is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off.~~ **12** It *is not in heaven*, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

13 Neither *is* it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

14 But the word *is* very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.

15 See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil;

16 In that I command thee this day to love YHVH thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and YHVH thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.

17 But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them;

18 I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, *and that* ye shall not prolong *your* days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it.

19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

20 That thou mayest love YHVH thy God, *and* that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he *is* thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which YHVH sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

Deu chapter 31 Deu 31:1-30

1 And Moses went and spake these words unto all Israel.

2 And he said unto them, I *am* an hundred and twenty years old this day; I can no more go out and come in: also YHVH hath said unto me, Thou shalt not go over this Jordan.

3 YHVH thy God, he will go over before thee, *and* he will destroy these nations from before thee, and thou shalt possess them: *and* Joshua, he shall go over before thee, as YHVH hath said.

4 And YHVH shall do unto them as he did to Sihon and to Og, kings of the Amorites, and unto the land of them, whom he destroyed.

5 And YHVH shall give them up before your face, that ye may do unto them according unto all the commandments which I have commanded you.

6 Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for YHVH thy God, he *it is* that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

7 And Moses called unto Joshua, and said unto him in the sight of all Israel, Be strong and of a good courage: for thou must go with this people unto the land which YHVH hath sworn unto their fathers to give them; and thou shalt cause them to inherit it.

⁸ And YHVH, he *it is* that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.

⁹ And Moses wrote this law, and delivered it unto the priests the sons of Levi, which bare the ark of the covenant of YHVH, and unto all the elders of Israel.

¹⁰ And Moses commanded them, saying, At the end of *every* seven years, in the solemnity of the year of release, in the feast of tabernacles,

¹¹ When all Israel is come to appear before YHVH thy God in the place which he shall choose, thou shalt read this law before all Israel in their hearing.

¹² Gather the people together, men, and women, and children, and thy stranger that *is* within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear YHVH your God, and observe to do all the words of this law:

¹³ And *that* their children, which have not known *any thing*, may hear, and learn to fear YHVH your God, as long as ye live in the land whither ye go over Jordan to possess it.

¹⁴ And YHVH said unto Moses, Behold, thy days approach that thou must die: call Joshua, and present yourselves in the tabernacle of the congregation, that I may give him a charge. And Moses and Joshua went, and presented themselves in the tabernacle of the congregation.

¹⁵ And YHVH appeared in the tabernacle in a pillar of a cloud: and the pillar of the cloud stood over the door of the tabernacle.

¹⁶ And YHVH said unto Moses, Behold, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers; and this people will rise up, and go a whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go *to be* among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them.

¹⁷ Then my anger shall be kindled 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, Are not these evils come upon us, because our God *is* not among us?

¹⁸ And I will surely hide my face in that day for all the evils which they shall have wrought, in that they are turned unto other gods.

¹⁹ Now therefore write ye this song for you, and teach it the children of Israel: put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for me against the children of Israel.

²⁰ For when I shall have brought them into the land which I swear unto their fathers, that floweth with milk and honey; and they shall have eaten and filled themselves, and waxen fat; then will they turn unto other gods, and serve them, and provoke me, and break my covenant.

²¹ And it shall come to pass, when many evils and troubles are befallen them, that this song shall testify against them as a witness; for it shall not be forgotten out of the mouths of their seed: for I know their imagination which they go about, even now, before I have brought them into the land which I swear.

²² Moses therefore wrote this song the same day, and taught it the children of Israel.

²³ And he gave Joshua the son of Nun a charge, and said, Be strong and of a good courage: for thou shalt bring the children of Israel into the land which I swear unto them: and I will be with thee.

- ²⁴ And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished,
- ²⁵ That Moses commanded the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of YHVH, saying,
- ²⁶ Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of YHVH your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee.
- ²⁷ For I know thy rebellion, and thy stiff neck: behold, while I am yet alive with you this day, ye have been rebellious against YHVH; and how much more after my death?
- ²⁸ Gather unto me all the elders of your tribes, and your officers, that I may speak these words in their ears, and call heaven and earth to record against them.
- ²⁹ For I know that after my death ye will utterly corrupt *yourselves*, and turn aside from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in the latter days; because ye will do evil in the sight of YHVH, to provoke him to anger through the work of your hands.
- ³⁰ And Moses spake in the ears of all the congregation of Israel the words of this song, until they were ended.

Outline

29

1-9 Moses exhorts them to obedience, reminding of the works they had seen

10-17 All are presented before the Lord to enter into his covenant

18-28 The great wrath on him who flatters himself in his wickedness

29 Secret things belong unto God

Aleph Tav: Deu 29:2, 9, 16

30

1-10 Great mercies promised unto the penitent

11-14 The commandment is manifest

15-20 Death and life are set before them

Aleph Tav: Deu 30:7

31

1-6 Moses encourages the people

7-8 He encourages Joshua

9-13 He delivers the law unto the priests to be read in the seventh year

14-18 God gives a charge to Joshua

19-23 and a song to testify against the people

24-27 Moses delivers the book of the law to the Levites to keep

28-30 He makes a protestation

Aleph Tav: Deu 31:26, 28