

# Further up, Further in

## Resources for Continued Study



LOOKOUT  
MOUNTAIN  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

### “WHAT DOES COVENANT RENEWAL REQUIRE?”

For individual study or group discussion

Deuteronomy 1:19-33 recounts an important moment in the history of Israel when the first generation hardens their hearts to God’s promises on the outskirts of the Promised Land (Numbers 13-14). Moses frames his narration to the current generation of Israel with warnings of unbelief. He cautions them that if they refuse to trust God, they too will forfeit the blessings he has in store for them. On the plains of Moab, Moses instructs the children of Israel that *covenant renewal requires remembering their rebellion (vv. 19-28) as well as God’s faithfulness (vv. 29-33).*

#### **Remember Our Rebellion (vv. 19-28)**

Up to this point, God has provided the Israelites everything they need to trust him: clear instruction (vv. 6-8), fulfilled promises (vv. 9-12), charters for justice (vv. 13-18). And now in verses 19-33, Moses asserts God’s continued protection in the face of opposition. But the first generation of Israelites rebelled and missed the opportunity to take the land God was giving to them. Fear twisted their view of reality, as they accused God of hating them (vv. 26-28).

- In what areas are we hesitant to move forward in believing God’s promises for us? Do we believe God’s promise to be with us, and that he is making all things new (Revelation 21:3-5)? Read Ephesians 2:10 and Jeremiah 29:11. What are God’s plans for you?
- Instead of trusting in God’s provision, the first generation of Israelites saw only overwhelming obstacles before them. Read Hebrews chapter 3. What hindered the Israelites from entering into God’s rest (vv. 7-11)? What will hinder us today (v. 12)? What can we do as a church to help one another persevere through trials and times of doubt (v. 13)?
- Take time to reflect on Matthew Henry’s commentary on Deuteronomy: “All disobedience to God’s laws, and distrust of his power and goodness, flow from disbelief of his word, as all true obedience springs from faith. It is profitable for us to divide our past lives into distinct periods; to give thanks to God for the mercies we have received in each, to confess and seek the forgiveness of all the sins we can remember; and thus to renew our acceptance of God’s salvation, and our surrender of ourselves to his service.”<sup>1</sup>

#### **Remember God’s Faithfulness (vv. 29-33)**

Instead of remembering God’s faithfulness, how he delivered them from the hands of the Egyptians (v. 30), and how he cared for them in the wilderness—carrying them “as a man carries his son, all the way that you went until you came to this place” (v. 31)—the first generation of Israel did not believe (v. 32). Their refusal to enter the Promised Land demonstrated their lack of faith, despite all God had done for them.

- Why is it important to both remember our failures and God’s faithfulness as we reflect on our past? (cf. Ezekiel 18:21; Isaiah 46:8-13)
- In verses 29-33, God is both a tender parent and a mighty warrior. Revelation 5:5-10 portrays Jesus as the “Lion of the tribe of Judah” who has conquered sin and death as the “slain Lamb.” Why does Messianic deliverance necessitate Christ being both the Lion and the Lamb? (See I Peter 2:24; Revelation 1:5-6.)
- When the Israelites hardened their hearts, determined to do things their way instead of God’s way, they forfeited God’s blessings. And yet despite their faithlessness, God was faithful to his promise. How did the cross solve the great problem of Kadesh-barnea? (cf. Isaiah 53)
- The same question lies before the church today as it did before the children of Israel on the plains of Moab: Will we refuse to humble ourselves before God, hardening our hearts in unbelief? Or will we listen and live? Read Deuteronomy 28:1-2. How do we know if we are listening to the Word of God? (Also recall from our previous studies in Luke 8:21 and 11:28 Jesus’ description of those who “hear the word of God.”)

DATE: July 17, 2022

SPEAKER: Wil/David

SERIES: Deuteronomy

PASSAGE: Deuteronomy 1:19-33

## Family Dinner Table

### **When Fear Seizes You**

by Stacy Reaoch

When fear begins to creep in and all the “what-if” situations begin to consume your mind, here are seven things to remember:

- **God’s truth.** *Is what I’m thinking about really happening? Or is it just my imagination running wild? Remember Paul’s exhortation in Philippians 4:8.*
- **God’s presence.** *We can be comforted remembering that we are not alone. “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1).*
- **God’s grace.** *God promises to provide us with his all-sufficient grace for every trial that comes our way. “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Cor. 12:9).*
- **God’s sovereignty.** *God is in control over every situation in our lives. Read Daniel 4:35.*
- **God’s listening ear.** *Pour out your heart to God in prayer. “I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry” (Psalm 40:1).*
- **God’s trustworthiness.** *“When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?” (Psalm 56:3-4).*
- **God’s big picture plan.** *No matter how awful this trial may seem, God promises to use everything together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose (Romans 8:28).*

So, when your child is diagnosed with cancer, or you just learned of a loved one in a car accident, or your husband comes home with news that he was let go from his job, prepare yourself for battle. Don’t let the Enemy use fear to seize you and take you captive. Fight him off with the promises of God’s word and his unchanging character.<sup>2</sup>

### **PRAY FOR HOME MISSIONS**

**Reformed University Fellowship,**  
*denominational partner ministry*

### **PRAY FOR WORLD MISSIONS**

**Our Favorite Professors,** *supported missionary partners*

<sup>1</sup>Henry, Matthew. *Matthew Henry’s Commentary on the Whole Bible.* <https://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/matthew-henry-complete/deuteronomy/1.html>. July 12, 2022.

<sup>2</sup>Reaoch, Stacy. *When Fear Seizes You.* April 21, 2015. *Desiring God.* <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/when-fear-seizes-you>. July 11, 2022.