

Deuteronomy 8:1-20 **"Know What You Believe And Why You Believe It"** 7/16/ 2023

Intro to Book:

Author? Moses

Time? About 1405 B.C.

Occasion? Moses is at the end of his life, having led the children of Israel for 40 years through the desert. He gives this address to the new generation about to go into the promise land under Joshua's leadership.

Value? This book is looking back to all that has happened in those 40 years of wilderness wanderings. Yet beyond just the events. Exodus gives us the WHAT is happening; Deuteronomy gives us the WHY it happened.

So important to know WHAT you believe and WHY you believe it.

TEXT: DEUTERONOMY 8:1-20 *****

v. 2 - "HUMBLE YOU" – We are dependent on God. We need to recognize this need or we self-destruct. A beautiful relationship results with God through this cooperation, when we surrender to this truth of, real, heartfelt humility. The history of Israel and the history of all people is this; when being invited into humility we rebel and do not trust that God is good, then "humiliation" results. Note all the passages about "humble yourself" in the bible. Why are we so involved in this humility thing? Because it is a self-revelation brought about by God arranging things so you can see it, and joyfully choose it.

It is amazing that the gift of being made, "in His image" (**intellect, emotion, and will,**) are the unique things, the exact items, used by Satan to make us think we can go it alone and be happy apart from God.

Lewis: (Mere Christianity) " God designed the human to run on Himself. He Himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirits were designed to feed on. There is no other. That is why it is just no good asking God to make us happy, in our own way, without bothering about religion (Christianity.) God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing."

"TESTING YOU" - Placing them in a pressure situation to see what was in their hearts all along.

Ex. "Money does not make a man; it reveals a man."

You never really know another person till the pressure is on. You will never know yourself, till the pressure is on. You can never discover the kindness of God, till the pressure is on.

Ex. Dr. Bell's classes. "12 days then an exodus!" You lose about ¼ of the original class.

This does not mean that you will not choke up at first. We all have to learn it. And it is beautiful and peaceful if you continue after the choke-up!

v. 3 - "LET YOU BE HUNGRY" - He stretched their faith. That is a great kindness!

Ex. Jesus' temptation Matthew 4 He quotes From Deuteronomy 8.

v. 5 - "DISCIPLINE A CHILD" Hebrews 12: 5-11

v. 10-15 - "YOU SHALL BLESS THE LORD"

Ex. Luke 17: 11-18 Attitude of the 9 "I got what I want; there could not be more, right?"

God was a "means to an end" for 9 men; their own plan for their happiness, in their own way. The one man knew God was offering Himself to him. God Himself, through Jesus Christ. Not a means to an end; but the end itself! To know God and enjoy Him forever!

Road to unbelief? Being unthankful - Romans 1: 18-22

Un-thankfulness: More stuff, more mindless activity and entertainment!

The ungrateful never pick up on any lessons! They just rush to the next thing!

EX. Page 108- "Calm My Anxious Heart" Linda Dillow - 14 year old writes a poem-

v. 16 - "DO GOOD TO YOU IN THE END" The point of it all!

Remember, we are being prepared for a future reality beyond description. No prayer request for "stuff" over rides the **training protocol**. (Rom. 5:1-5/ I Peter 1: 6-7/ James 1: 2-3)

QUESTION: Does He really have your best interest at heart? **Romans 8:28-31**

v. 17-20 - The illusion of the self-made man