

The Command to Enter Canaan

- Moses spoke to the children of Israel according to all that the LORD had given him as commandments to them (1:1-5). The first lesson regarding the command to enter Canaan is that **the command was from the LORD** (Gen. 17:8; Num. 34:2; Ps. 78:54-55).
- You have dwelt long enough at this mountain (1:6-8). The second lesson regarding the command to enter Canaan is that **there is a set time for everything**, this text reveals that it was time for Israel to go in and possess the promised land that the LORD swore to give to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Gen. 12:7; 15:5; Eccl. 3:1).
- How can I alone bear your problems and your burdens and your complaints? (1:9-18). Another lesson is that **tribal leaders were appointed to help Moses in judgments**, and instructed not to show partiality or be afraid in judgment as the judgment is God's (Deut. 1:17; Lev. 19:15; 1 Sam. 16:7).
- Where can we go up? Our brethren have discouraged our hearts (1:19-33). Another lesson is that **Israel refused to enter the land** due to the spies who were sent out who discouraged the masses (Num. 13:28, 31-33; 14:1-10).
- And the LORD heard the sound of your words, and was angry, and took an oath (1:34-46). The final lesson regarding the command to enter Canaan is that **there was a penalty for Israel's rebellion** as the oath that the LORD spoke meant that the people who refused to obey His command would never see that good land which the LORD swore to give to the patriarchs (Num. 14:22-23; Ps. 95:10-11).

The Desert Years

- And the LORD spoke to me, saying, “You have skirted this mountain long enough; turn northward.” (2:1-3). The first lesson regarding the deserted years is **that LORD ordered their steps**, it was the LORD who decided that Israel had dwelt long enough in the wilderness, and ordered them to move on (Ps. 37:23; Pro. 16:9; 20:24).
- I will not give you any of their land as a possession (2:4-12). The second lesson regarding the desert years is **that the LORD gives lands**, the LORD would not allow the Israelites to possess any land that He had given the descendants of Esau (Edomites), just as He was giving the Israelites territories beyond Jordan and Canaan (Gen. 36:8; Josh. 24:4).
- When all the men of war had finally perished from among the people (2:13-16). Another lesson is that **due to disobedience all the generation of the men of war were destroyed** from the midst of the camp (Num. 13:26; 14:33; Deut. 1:34-35).
- This day you are to cross over at AR, the boundary of Moab — I will not give you any of the land of the people of Ammon (2:17-23). Another lesson is **that the LORD had given possession to Lot’s descendants** (Moabites and Ammonites) and forbidden the Israelites from possessing any land that He had given Moabites and Ammonites (Gen. 19:38; Num. 21:24).
- Look, I have given into your hand Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land (2:24-37). The final lesson regarding the desert years is that **the LORD gave the Israelites territories** beyond Jordan and Canaan, which included the land of Sihon the Amorites’ land (Num. 21:13-14; Judg. 11:18).

The Promised Land

- And the LORD said to me, “Do not fear him, for I have delivered him and all his people and his land into your hand...” (3:1-11). The first lesson regarding the promised land is that **the promised land was obtained through conquest** (Num. 21:24; Josh. 13:21).
- And this land, which we possessed at that time, from Aroer... I gave to the Reubenites and Gadites (3:12-17). The second lesson regarding the promised land is that **the land east of the Jordan was divided** amongst two and half tribes (Num. 32:33; Josh 12:6).
- Then I commanded you at that time, saying: ‘The LORD your God has given you land to possess... (3:18-22). Another lesson is that **the promised land was given to Israel by the LORD** (Num. 32:20; Josh. 4:12-13).
- But the LORD was angry with me on your account, and would not listen to me (3:23-29). The final lesson regarding the promised land is that **Moses was forbidden to enter the land** because he disobeyed the LORD’s command (Num. 20:12; 27:14; Deut. 1:37; 31:2).

Moses Commands Obedience

- Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and judgments which I teach you to observe, that you may live (4:1-4). The first lesson regarding Moses commands obedience is that **by obedience the people of Israel will live** similar to children who obey their parents, God promises long life (Deut. 5:16; Lev. 19:37).
- Surely I have taught you statutes and judgments, just as the LORD my God has commanded me (4:5-14). The second lesson regarding Moses commands obedience is that **it was God who commanded Moses to teach the people of Israel obedience** that they may continue to practice in the promised land (Ex. 21:1; Deut. 4:14).
- Take careful heed to yourselves, for you saw no form when the LORD spoke to you at Horeb (4:15-20). Another lesson is **by obedience the people of Israel will beware of idolatry**, and therefore heed the second commandment (Deut. 5:8; Josh. 23:11).
- Take heed to yourselves, lest you forget the covenant of the LORD your God (4:21-28). Another lesson is that **failure to heed Moses command of obedience will have serious consequences** such as God's people not allowed to enter the land as was the case of Moses or the LORD expelling the people from the land (Deut. 30:18-19; Mic. 6:2).
- But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart (4:29-43). Another lesson is that **obedience involves seeking the LORD with all our heart**, which leads to experiencing God's mercy and protection (Lev. 26:39-45; Deut. 4:30-31, 41-43; 30:1-3).
- Now this is the law which Moses set before the children of Israel (4:44-49). The final lesson regarding Moses commands obedience is that **there is a blessing in obedience** as God's laws that Moses set before the people of Israel will be carried out, the glory of the LORD is revealed (Is. 1:19-20; 40:5).

The Ten Commandments

- The LORD our God made a covenant with us (5:1-3). The first lesson regarding the Ten Commandments is that **Yahuweh [the LORD God] made this covenant with Israel** (Ex. 19:5; Deut. 4:23; Mal. 4:4).
- The LORD talk with you face to face on the mountain (5:4-5). The second lesson regarding the Ten Commandments is that **Yahuweh [the LORD God] personally communicated this to Israel** (Ex. 19:9; 20:21).
- You shall have no other gods before Me (5:6-15). Another lesson regarding the Ten Commandments is that **the first and great commandment is to love Yahuweh [the LORD God]** so the first four commandments in keeping them demonstrates our love for Yahuweh [the LORD God] (Matt. 22:37-38; Num. 14:18; Deut. 7:9; Jer. 32:18).
- Honor your father and your mother (5:16). Another lesson regarding the Ten Commandments is that **the fifth commandment was given to children** who by keeping this command, Yahuweh [the LORD God] promises to give such children long life (Ex. 20:12; Lev. 19:3; Matt. 15:4).
- You shall not murder (5:17-21). Another lesson regarding the Ten Commandments is that **the last five commandments represents the second great commandment** and in keeping them demonstrates our love for our neighbour (Matt. 5:21; 22:39-40; Ex. 20:13).
- These words the LORD spoke to all your assembly - He added no more (5:22-28). And He wrote them on two tablets of stone (5:22-28). Another lesson regarding the Ten Commandments **there was a warning** not to add to them and **particularly it was personally written down by Yahuweh** (Ex. 24:12; 31:18; Deut. 4:13).
- Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments (5:29-33). The final lesson regarding the Ten Commandments is that **the fear of God can help us to keep His commandments**, so the people were commended for being afraid of God's presence (Eccl. 12:13; Deut. 32:39; Ps. 81:13; Is. 48:18; John 14:15).

The Greatest Commandment

- Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe it, that it may be well with you (6:1-3). The first lesson regarding the greatest commandment is that **Israel were commanded to hear and observe it**, for in doing so, it would lead to a blessing (Deut. 7:13; Ex. 3:8, 17).
- Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart (6:4-6). The second lesson regarding the greatest commandment is that **the people of God were commanded to love Yahuweh [the LORD] from the heart**, for Yahuweh is the LORD our God, the LORD alone, the one and only, He is the one and only true God (Deut. 4:35; Mark 12:29; John 17:3).
- You shall teach them diligently to your children (6:7-9). Another lesson regarding the greatest commandment is that **Israel were commanded to teach it to their children** (Deut. 4:9; 11:19; Eph. 6:4).
- You shall fear the LORD your God and serve Him (6:10-15). Another lesson regarding the greatest commandment is that **the people of God were required to fear and serve Yahuweh [the LORD]** in order to obey it, and in the process be free from fearing and serving other gods (Matt. 4:7; Luke 4:12).
- You shall not tempt the LORD your God (6:16-25). The final lesson regarding the greatest commandment is that **there was a strong warning against disobedience** for Yahuweh [the LORD] has commanded His people to carefully observe the greatest commandment and all His commandments (Matt. 4:7; Luke 4:12; 1 Cor. 10:9).

A Chosen People

- And when the LORD your God delivers them over to you (7:1-2). The first lesson regarding a chosen people is that **Israel is Yahuweh's [the LORD God] chosen people** whom He will enable to defeat greater nations (Num. 31:17; Deut. 20:16-18; Ex. 23:32-33; Josh. 2:14).
- Nor shall you make marriages with them (7:3-5). The second lesson regarding a chosen people is that **Yahweh commanded separation from foreigners** particularly nations that were a threat to Israel who would turn Israel from worshipping God (Neh. 9:2; 10:28-30; Ezra 9:1-2; 10:2-3; Deut. 7:1-3).
- For you are a holy people to the your God; the LORD has chosen you to be His people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth (7:6-8). Another lesson is that **Yahweh's chosen people are holy and special** above all other peoples on the earth (Ex. 19:5-6; Amos 3:2; 1 Pet. 2:9).
- Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy (7:9-11). Another lesson regarding a chosen people is that **our God is a faithful and merciful God**, He is a covenant keeping God (1 Cor. 1:9; 2 Thess. 3:3; 2 Tim. 2:13; Deut. 7:9).
- Then it shall come to pass, because you listen to these judgments and keep and do them (7:12-20). Another lesson regarding a chosen people is **the blessings of obedience** leads to the blessing of the fruit of the womb, good health, increase in possessions and enemies defeated (Ps. 146:8; Prov. 15:9; John 14:21; Deut. 28:4).
- You shall not be afraid of them, for the LORD your God, the great and awesome God (7:21-26). The final lesson regarding a chosen people is that **Yahuweh is our great and awesome God** who will keep His covenant to deliver and protect us from all evil, so a chosen people need not fear (Matt. 6:13; Neh. 1:5; Deut. 10:17; Ps. 47:2; Deut. 7:21).

Remember the LORD your God

- Every commandment which I command you today you must be careful to observe (8:1). The first lesson regarding remember the LORD your God is that **we must be careful to remember every commandment of God to observe to do** (Deut. 4:1; 6:24; 30:16; Eccl. 12:13-14).
- And you shall remember that the LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness (8:2). The second lesson regarding remember the LORD your God is that **we must remember that the LORD leads us** (Matt. 6:13; 26:41; 1 Cor. 10:4).
- But man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD (8:3). Another lesson regarding remember the LORD your God is that **we must remember that we live by the word of God** (Matt. 4:4; Luke 4:4).
- To walk in His ways and to fear Him (8:4-6). Another lesson regarding remember the LORD your God is that **we must remember to walk in His ways and fear Him** (Matt. 10:28; Luke 12:4-5; Ps. 37:34; 119:3).
- Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God (8:7-15). Another lesson is **a warning that failure to remember the LORD has consequences** (1 Cor. 4:7; Ps. 106:21; Is. 17:10; Hos. 4:6).
- That He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end (8:16-17). Another lesson regarding remember the LORD your God is that **the LORD tests us**, but the devil tempts us (Matt. 6:13; Ps. 26:2; Jer. 17:10).
- For it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant (8:18-20). The final lesson regarding remember the LORD your God is that it is **worth remembering that God gives us ability to get wealth** particularly for the purpose of establishing His covenant and good plans (Prov. 10:22; Hos. 2:8; Deut. 7:8; Jer. 29:11).

Israel's Rebellions

- Remember! Do not forget how you provoked the LORD your God to wrath in the wilderness (9:1-7). The first lesson regarding Israel's rebellions is that although the LORD (Yahuweh) went before Israel as a consuming fire, yet still **Israel rebelled in the wilderness** (Num. 14:22; Ex. 14:11).
- Also, in Horeb you provoked the LORD to wrath (9:8-14). The second lesson regarding Israel's rebellions is that after Moses's miraculous experience of forty days and nights without bread or water, he received two tablets of stone of the covenant written by the fingers of God, and on them were all the words Yahuweh had spoken to Israel on the mountain, yet still **Israel also rebelled in Horeb** to the point of that Yahuweh was angry enough to destroy them (Ex. 32:1-8; Ps. 106:19).
- But the LORD listened to me at that time also (9:15-19). Another lesson regarding Israel's rebellions is that **God is a merciful God**, even in His anger at times He can be merciful (2 Sam. 24:14; 1 Chr. 21:13; Ex. 32:10-14).
- "so I prayed for Aaron also at the same time" (9:20-21). Another lesson regarding Israel's rebellions is that Aaron could of been destroyed but for the prayers of a righteous man like Moses, and therefore, **prayer is always effective** particular in times of trouble (Jam. 5:16-17; 1 Thess. 5:17; Luke 18:1).
- Also at Taberah and Massah and Kibroth Hattaavah - likewise, when the LORD sent you from Kadesh Barnea (9:22-23). Another lesson regarding Israel's rebellions is **that four other places are mentioned where Israel rebelled** due to unbelief and disobedience of the voice of God (Num. 13:3; Ps. 106:24-25).
- Remember Your servants, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (9:24-29). The final lesson regarding Israel's rebellions is that **God is a covenant keeping God**, so although Israel has rebelled from the beginning of the relationship, yet God has not destroyed Israel because He remembers His covenant with the patriarchs (Gen. 12:1-3; 26:3-4; 28:13-15; Ex. 3:15).

The Essence of the Law

- And I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets (10:1-3). The first lesson regarding the essence of the law is that **the law was written by the finger of God** (Ex. 25:16, 21; 31:18).
- And He wrote on the tablets according to the first writing, the Ten Commandments (10:4). The second lesson regarding the essence of the law is that **it is centred around the ten commandments** (Ex. 20:1; 34:28).
- “just as the LORD commanded me” (10:5-11). Another lesson regarding the essence of the law is that **the law was given to Moses the lawgiver**, which was his role as the mediator delivering God’s law to Israel (Deut. 33:4, 21; John 1:17; Ezra 7:6).
- And now, Israel, what does the LORD require of you - “and to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for you own good” (10:12-13). Another lesson regarding the essence of the law is that **the LORD required Israel to keep His commandment**, which was for their own good (Deut. 4:1; 6:2, 24; Job 35:7-8; Jer. 32:39).
- Indeed heaven and the highest heavens belong to the LORD your God (10:14-16). Another lesson regarding the essence of the law is that **it comes from the highest authority, from God** who resides in the highest heaven which according to the book of Enoch is the tenth heaven (2 Enoch 22), which also mentions the third heaven as Paradise, where the righteous will dwell (2 Enoch 8-9; 2 Cor. 12:2-4).
- For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome (10:17-19). Another lesson regarding the essence of the law is that **it glorifies God as the only true God who is a mighty God who shows no partiality in justice** (Ex. 22:22-24; Ps. 68:5; 146:9; Is. 9:6-7).
- You shall fear the LORD your God; you shall serve Him, and to Him you shall take oaths in His name (10:20-22). The final lesson regarding the essence of the law is that **it helps us to fear God and to serve Him only** (Matt. 4:10; 10:28; Luke 4:8; Deut. 6:13).

