

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

1)	01 Dec 2019	Numbers 01-09	God Leads
2)	08 Dec	Numbers 10-14	God Judges
3)	15 Dec	Numbers 15-20	God Requires
4)	22 Dec	Numbers 21 / Matthew 1	God Saves
5)	29 Dec	Numbers 22	God Calls
6)	05 Jan 2020	Numbers 23-27	God Commissions
7)	12 Jan	Numbers 28-36	God Expects
8)	19 Jan	Deuteronomy 5 & 19	Valued
9)	26 Jan	Deuteronomy 1-4	Honored
10)	02 Feb	Deuteronomy 5-6	Loved
11)	09 Feb	Deuteronomy 7-18	Revealed
12)	16 Feb	Deuteronomy 19-30	Chosen
13)	23 Feb	Deuteronomy 31-34	Promised

**INTRODUCTION**

- Joshua takes Moses' place and Moses delivers one final set of blessings and cursings Israel needs to heed

Passage	Comments
Deut 31:1-30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>v3. God will destroy these nations, and Israel will drive them out. In other places we are told:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>God will strike the Canaanites with diseases and dispossess them from the Land ..... <a href="#">Num 14:22</a></li> <li>Israel is to dispossess the Canaanites ..... <a href="#">Deut 9:1</a></li> <li>God will drive them out little bit at a time ..... <a href="#">Deut 7:22</a></li> <li>God delivers them to Israel and Israel is to utterly destroy them ..... <a href="#">Deut 7:2</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>In summary, God initiates the action and takes credit for it and He has Israel carry out their assigned duties</li> <li><b>v7-8. Moses introduces Joshua: SEE SIDEBAR →</b></li> <li>v10-13. Israel was to read the Law for the people to listen and learn once every 7 years (remember, most didn't know how to read, &amp; there were few copies)</li> <li>v16-17. Israel will first abandon God, and God will abandon His people – Many troubles await them                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recall that Israel was comprised of both true believers and many non-believers..... <a href="#">Rom 9:6</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>v27-30. Moses foretells the wickedness Israel will soon do following his death – So Sing this Song...</li> </ul>
32:1-52	<p><b>Song of Moses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is not a Happy-Go-Lucky song, but one of dire prediction of Israel's soon departure from God</li> <li>But it was a song with sound doctrinal truth to entice the singers to choose life and avoid death</li> <li>Can you imagine singing a song about your family and having to memorize stanzas such as the following:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is your defect – you are not God's children.....v5</li> <li>You are devious and crooked .....v5</li> <li>You are foolish and senseless .....v6</li> <li>You became fat, bloated and gorged.....v15</li> <li>You practice detestable practices .....v16</li> <li>You sacrifice to demons.....v17</li> <li>You are perverted and unfaithful .....v20</li> <li>So, God will pile disasters on you .....v23</li> <li>You will hunger and hurt .....v24</li> <li>You will watch your children die by the sword .....v25</li> </ul> </li> <li>And that's only half the song. God also wanted them to think things through and consider their situation                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>God is Just, Righteous, and True .....v4</li> <li>He watches you as an eagle watches her young ....v11</li> <li>He blessed your economy .....v13</li> <li>You need to be wise and understand your fate .....v29</li> <li>...and one day God will bless you again.....v36</li> <li>Realize that God brings death and gives life .....v39</li> <li>...and God wounds and heals.....v39</li> <li>...and one day He will purify you .....v43</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After teaching this song to Israel, Moses had a few last words to say – “Take very seriously all these words of this song as a WARNING...Command your children to follow God's laws, for they are not meaningless words, but they are LIFE”</li> </ul>
33:1-29	<p><b>Moses Pronounces His Blessing on the 12 Tribes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13 tribes out of 14 are mentioned. Simeon is missing</li> <li>In Rev 7, where 12,000 from each tribe make up the 144,000 witnesses, Dan and Ephraim are missing, probably due to their deplorable idolatry and apostasy recorded prior to Israel's Babylonian captivity</li> </ul>
34:1-12	<p><b>God Secretly Buries Moses ..... WHY?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vv10-11. Moses was unique                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>God spoke to other prophets by visions &amp; dreams, but with Moses it was more direct ..... <a href="#">Num 12:6-8</a></li> <li>God spoke to Moses directly (“face-to-face” or “mouth to mouth” is a metaphor for direct or intimate communication, since Scripture is clear no one can see God's face and live, even Moses..... <a href="#">Exodus 33:20</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Deut 5:4</a>. God spoke to all Israel “face to face”</li> <li><a href="#">Num 12:8</a>. God spoke to Moses “mouth to mouth”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Moses doesn't appear again till the Transfiguration of Jesus with Elijah ..... <a href="#">Matthew 17:2</a></li> </ul>
SIDEBAR Deut 31:7-8	<p><b>Moses Introduced Joshua as His Successor</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why did Moses pick the next oldest person, 85-year old Joshua, to lead Israel instead of a younger guy?</li> <li><b>Consider this.</b> God did not pick someone who could better relate to the younger generation. He picked someone who knew Him the best &amp; had experience, first as a good follower and as a warrior; Picking a young ruler could be death to a people (<a href="#">Ecc 10:16</a>; <a href="#">1Tim 3:6</a>)</li> <li>So, why do churches often pick young pastors over more experienced pastors? <input type="checkbox"/> They are cheaper? <input type="checkbox"/> They can better reach the next generation? <input type="checkbox"/> Longer tenure? <b>Note:</b> Most SBC pastors (95%) last less than 5 years</li> </ul>

**CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS**

- How hard is it for people to obey simple, common sense laws such as love one another, take care of the weaker ones, be kind?
- But if we can't even get Christians to obey the speed limit, how can we expect non-Christians to seek the things of God?
- We Christians need to be salty examples that preserve society

**NEXT WEEK: Romans 1.** Romans is often considered the most difficult book in the New Testament because of its numerous doctrines, its blunt approach, and its legalese. Chapter 1 deals with grace, faith, praying, the gospel, excuses to the gospel, homosexuality, depravity, and death – all within 32 verses.

