



Portion:

Title:

## SCRIPTURES

- Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22
- John 14:1-4; James 1:2-4
- II Peter 1:1-15

## ENOUGH ALREADY!

- My Yoke is Easy
- You Lack Nothing
- Precious Promises

*Enough already? Or, enough already! Have you learned your lesson yet, or do you need to be reminded of Yahweh's faithfulness —again? Do you still get fearful when your faith is tested, or do you quickly remember His faithfulness? As we enter the book of Deuteronomy, Moses takes a trip down memory lane. Listen people, Yahweh has made good on His word EVERY TIME, so, when He tells you to have no fear as you enter the Promised Land, you can trust Him. "He will go before you and fight for you." Remember, "Yahweh carried you, as a man carries his son, everywhere you went, until you came to this place." "He has blessed everything you've touched for the last forty years in the wilderness, and you have lacked nothing." "Your eyes have seen all that Yahweh has done." Do you think He will fail you now? And by the way, here's a sneak peak; the whole thing was a test! "God led you all the way*

*these forty years in the wilderness to test what was in your heart, whether you would obey Him or not."*

*In Y'shua, the Father makes the same promises to you. The prophetic patterns are striking! "Let not your heart be troubled; I go to prepare a place for you; where I am, there you may be also." Yes, through various trials (the wilderness), your faith is tested, and in the end, you will have lacked nothing. Y'shua also uses the same heart test; "If you love Me, you'd obey Me!"*

*So, enough already? Or, enough already! It should be obvious; it's enough already!*

#### **THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE**

**"Then I said to you, 'Do not be terrified, or afraid of them. Yahweh your God, who goes before you, He will fight for you, according to all He did for you in Egypt before your eyes, and in the wilderness where you saw how Yahweh your God carried you, as a man carries his son, in all the way that you went until you came to this place.'" Deuteronomy 1:29-31 NKJV**

**"For Yahweh your God has blessed you in all the work of your hand. He knows your trudging through this great wilderness. These forty years Yahweh your God has been with you; you have lacked nothing." Deuteronomy 2:7 NKJV**

## OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE

“**Let not your heart be troubled;** you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. **I go to prepare a place for you.** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that **where I am, there you may be also.** And where I go you know, and the way you know.” John 14:1-4 NKJV

“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into **various trials**, knowing that **the testing of your faith** produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, **lacking nothing.**” James 1:2-4 NKJV

## Let’s Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. Deuteronomy is both the title for the last book of the Torah and the first Torah portion therein. One ancient name for the book of Deuteronomy is Mishnah HaTorah, which means “repetition of the Torah.” This is similar to the Greek Septuagint name Deuteronomos, which means “second law.” The English name Deuteronomy is obviously derived from Deuteronomos.
2. It is dominated by Moses’ farewell address to the children of Israel as they are assembled on the plains of Moab across the Jordan from Jericho. He urges them to remain faithful to the

covenant and prepares them for entering Canaan. During the course of the book, Moses reviews the story of the giving of the Torah at Sinai and the wilderness journey to the Promised Land. He reiterates many of God's laws and introduces some laws for the first time.

3. Keep in mind that the events being described took place starting shortly after the exodus and throughout their wilderness journey. Now, almost 40 years later, the people are being reminded of their recent history. How often do we need to be reminded of our history with Yahweh!?

### **Deuteronomy 1**

4. **The Previous Command to Enter the Land:** we see that the whole journey from Egypt to the edge of the promised land could have taken 14 days. We know they were to go a three-day's journey into the wilderness and have a "feast for Yahweh" and that should have landed them in Horeb (at Mount Sinai). Then, it was only an eleven day journey from Horeb to where they stood, had they taken the straight path and not the 40 year route! It's now the first day of the eleventh month 40 years later and Moses begins remind them of all the major event on their journey and retell the commands given at Mt. Sinai.
5. Back at Sinai, Yahweh told them to take the commands they received and go. *"See, I have set the land before you; go in and*

*possess the land which the LORD swore to your fathers—to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—to give to them and their descendants after them.” Deuteronomy 1:8 NKJV*

6. Yet there is another curious perspective on how Moses words his opening remarks and they are worthy to consider. In verse 1:5 it says *“On this side of the Jordan in the land of Moab, Moses began to explain this law, saying...”* We know that Deuteronomy is a second telling of the laws (plural) given to Yahweh’s chosen people, but also we should consider the law (singular) that verse five points to.
7. *“See, I have set the land before you; **go in and possess the land which the LORD swore to your fathers—to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—to give to them and their descendants after them.”*** (Deuteronomy 1:8 NKJV) “Go in and take the land” is not a suggestion, but a command, and the purpose of it and the way it will happen was so important for them as God’s people back then, as well as for us as His people right now.
8. **Triable Leaders Appointed:** Moses recounts how Yahweh has multiplied them as “the stars of heaven” (clearly a reference to the promise to Abraham and his obedience!)
  - (a) *“Then He brought him outside and said, “Look now toward heaven, and **count the stars** if you are able to number them.”*

*And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."*

*Genesis 15:5 NKJV*

(b) *"And I will make your descendants multiply **as the stars of heaven**; I will **give to your descendants all these lands**; and in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; because Abraham **obeyed My voice** and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws."* Genesis 26:4-5  
NKJV

9. Then Moses reminds them of the explosive prophetic declaration he made back then: *"May the LORD God of your fathers make you **a thousand times more** numerous than you are, and bless you as He has promised you!"* (Deuteronomy 1:11 NKJV) The estimated number of Israelites at that moment was approximately **2.5 to 3 million**. That means he was prophesying that there would be **2.5 to 3 billion** children of God! Presently, how close might we be to that number? How many Christians have there been if we estimate all those who have become believers throughout history?

10. Moses recalls that because of the massive population he was advised to approve judges (wise, understanding, and knowledgeable men) to help with disputes.

(a) Leaders of thousands, leaders of hundreds, leaders of fifties, leaders of tens, and officers were appointed to impartially

handle all cases, except the most difficult ones. Moses will still handle those.

11. **Israel's First Refusal to Enter the Land:** When Israel had its first opportunity to enter, they asked if they could do some reconnaissance of the land beforehand. Moses agreed and they sent 12 men ahead. Of course two of the men (Joshua and Caleb) brought back a good report, and the other ten brought back words that frightened the people, inciting a rebellion. Moses assured them and reminded them all that Yahweh had done thus far, a history of going before them and fighting their battles, even leading them in the exact path they should go by fire and cloud. But it was fruitless. *"Yet, for all that, you did not believe the LORD your God,"* (Deuteronomy 1:32 NKJV)
12. **The Penalty for Israel's Rebellion:** None of you grown-up rebels will see the good land except the two men (Joshua and Caleb) who brought the good word, plus the young (20 and under at the time) who are innocent. So for now, take a turn and head back into the wilderness (for another 39 years).
13. **The penalty inspires a fear-based repentance:** The people say, "we are sorry, we are ready to fight, we will go fight right now." Yahweh tells them **"Don't do it!"** But, in rebellious fashion they presumptuously do it anyway, and get a good old-fashioned whooping!

## Deuteronomy 2

14. **The Desert Years:** Yahweh tells the people, as they launched back into the wilderness, to not meddle with the descendants of Esau, that not one footprint's-worth of their land will be for Israel. You should buy water and food from them and keep going. And remember that I will provide for you every step of the way, while you trudge through this great wilderness. Moses reminds them that indeed they have lacked nothing over these past 40 years. (Remember, this sermon by Moses we call Deuteronomy is taking place as they stand at the edge of the Promised Land 40 years after the exodus.)
15. **Wilderness of Moab:** Again, looking back to when they were told they'd be staying in the wilderness, they were told to not harass Moab, nor contend with them in battle, for Yahweh will not give them any of Moabite land as a possession. They were told that they'd keep wandering the wilderness until all the adult men, those who would not cross over into the Promised Land when they had their first chance, were dead.
16. Looking back again, they were given intricate details about when they would come upon the people of Ammon. They were ordered to not harass them or meddle with them, for Yahweh would not give them any of the land of the people of Ammon as a possession, because He had given it to the descendants of Lot.



17. In contrast to Moab and Ammon, they were ordered to go to war against Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land. They would possess that land and their victory would put the dread and fear of Israel upon the nations. When the nations hear the reports of Israel, they shall tremble and be in anguish.
18. **King Sihon Defeated:** at first, Israel is told to approach Sihon peacefully, asking if they can buy food and water and use his roads. But Yahweh's plan was to harden the king's spirit and make his heart obstinate (like Pharaoh), so that He might deliver him into the hands of Israel. Sihon's ultimate defeat was decisive and Israel moved on with many spoils of war.

### **Deuteronomy 3**

19. **King Og Defeated:** The same happens with Og as he comes out against Israel. The defeat is total and complete. They were utterly destroyed (cities and people). But, Israel took all the livestock and the spoils of the cities as booty.
- (a) They took the land from the hand of the two kings of the Amorites who were on the east side of the Jordan.
20. **The Land East of the Jordan:** Moses recounts the request of the Reubenites, Gadites and half the tribe of Manasseh. They wanted some good land on the east side in which to settle (as they had many livestock and needed an abundance of fertile land). Moses had ruled that as long as they prep with their

brothers for the war in the Promised Land, go before them in battle, and fight with them until they had complete victory, then their request is acceptable.

21. **This is how the Reubenites, Gadites and half the tribe of Manasseh were to go about fulfilling their obligations:** All you men of valor shall cross over armed before your brethren, the children of Israel. “Your wives, your little ones, and your livestock (I know that you have much livestock) shall stay in your cities which have been given to you, until the LORD has given rest to your brethren as to you, and they also possess the land which the LORD your God is giving them beyond the Jordan. Then each of you may return to his possession which I have given you.”

22. **The ultimate reminder of how every battle from this time forward will be won!** *“And I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, ‘Your eyes have seen all that the LORD your God has done to these two kings; so will the LORD do to all the kingdoms through which you pass. You must not fear them, for the LORD your God Himself fights for you.’”* Deuteronomy 3:21-22 NKJV

23. Last year’s teaching on this portion: [Two Swords are Enough, Because You Won’t Even Need One!](#)

## MY YOKE IS EASY

### 1. He's got you, so what are you worried about!

#### A. First we must set the stage for today's sermon! If you don't know from where you came, you'll not likely know where you are going!

##### (1) Moses' Words :: Y'shua's Words

(a) ""Then I said to you, '**Do not be terrified, or afraid of them.** Yahweh your God, who **goes before you**, He will fight for you, according to all He did for you in Egypt before your eyes, and in the wilderness where you saw how **Yahweh your God carried you, as a man carries his son**, in **all the way that you went until you came to this place.**'" Deuteronomy 1:29-31 NKJV

(b) ""**Let not your heart be troubled;** you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. **I go to prepare a place for you.** And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again and receive you** to Myself; that **where I am, there you may be also.** And where I go you know, and the way you know."" John 14:1-4 NKJV

1. Do not be terrified or afraid :: Let not your hearts be troubled

2. Yahweh goes before you :: I go to prepare a place for you
3. Yahweh carries you all the way to your destination :: I will come again, where I am you will also be

(2) Moses' Words :: James' Words

- (a) ""For Yahweh your God **has blessed you in all the work of your hand. He knows** your trudging through this **great wilderness. These forty years** Yahweh your God has been with you; **you have lacked nothing.**" ""

Deuteronomy 2:7 NKJV

- (b) "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into **various trials**, knowing that **the testing of your faith** produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, **lacking nothing.**" James 1:2-4 NKJV

1. Yahweh has blessed all the work of your hand ::  
Count it all joy
2. Even though you truded through the wilderness ::  
Even though you faced various trials
3. In the end you lacked nothing :: In the end you  
lacked nothing

## **B. Don't lose faith in fearful times!**

(1) How? Remember what He did...

(a) “Yet, for all that, **you did not believe** the Lord your God, who went in the way before you to search out a place for you to pitch your tents, to show you the way you should go, in the **fire by night and in the cloud by day.**”  
Deuteronomy 1:32-33 NKJV

(2) Your eyes have seen what Yahweh will do!

(a) ““And I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, ‘**Your eyes have seen all that the Lord your God has done** to these two kings; so will the Lord do to all the kingdoms through which you pass. **You must not fear them, for the Lord your God Himself fights for you.**’”

Deuteronomy 3:21-22 NKJV

(3) A Prophetic word looking back at Moses and ahead to Messiah!

(a) “**Fear not, for I am with you;** Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, **I will help you,** I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.’ “Behold, **all those** who were incensed **against you** Shall be **ashamed** and **disgraced;** They shall be as **nothing,** And those who strive with you shall **perish.** You shall seek them and not find them— Those who contended with you. Those who war against you Shall be as nothing, As a **nonexistent thing.** For I, the Lord your God, will hold

your right hand, Saying to you, '**Fear not, I will help you.**'" Isaiah 41:10-13 NKJV

1. Fear not, for I am with you; I will help you
2. All those against you shall perish and be: ashamed, disgraced, nothing, a nonexistent thing...
3. Fear not, I will help you.

(4) And for you as Christians, these are your reminders!

- (a) "**For God has not given us a spirit of fear**, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." II Timothy 1:7 NKJV
- (b) "For **you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear**, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."" Romans 8:15 NKJV

### **C. Do not be afraid...MORE REMINDERS**

(1) What can man do to me?

- (a) "The **fear of man brings a snare**, But whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe." Proverbs 29:25 NKJV
- (b) "In God (I will praise His word), In God I have put my trust; I will not fear. **What can flesh do to me?**" Psalms 56:4 NKJV
- (c) "The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. **What can man do to me?** The Lord is for me among those who help me; Therefore I shall see my desire on those who hate me. **It is better to trust in the Lord Than to put**

**confidence in man. It is better to trust in the Lord Than to put confidence in princes.** All nations surrounded me, But in the name of the Lord I will destroy them. They surrounded me, Yes, they surrounded me; But in the name of the Lord I will destroy them. They surrounded me like bees; They were quenched like a fire of thorns; For in the name of the Lord I will destroy them.” Psalms 118:6-12 NKJV

(d) ““I, even I, am He who comforts you. **Who are you that you should be afraid Of a man who will die,** And of the son of a man who will be made like grass?” Isaiah 51:12 NKJV

(e) **Those who can kill your body...** “And **do not fear those who kill the body** but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” Matthew 10:28 NKJV

1. Fear of man brings a snare
2. What can flesh do to me?
3. What can man do to me?
4. It is better to trust in the Lord Than to put confidence in man or princes.
5. Who are you that you should be afraid Of a man who will die?

6. Do not fear those who kill the body.
- (2) Do not fear nor be afraid...It's a command!
- (a) "Be strong and of good courage, **do not fear nor be afraid** of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you." **Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and of good courage,** for you must go with this people to the land which the Lord has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it. And the Lord, **He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed.**"
- Deuteronomy 31:6-8 NKJV
- (b) **Joshua: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed,** for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."
- Joshua 1:9 NKJV
- (3) Be anxious for nothing! There is nothing to be anxious about!
- (a) "**Be anxious for nothing,** but in everything by **prayer** and **supplication,** with **thanksgiving,** let your requests be made known to God; and the **peace of God,** which



surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV

(b) “The Lord is my light and my salvation; **Whom shall I fear?** The Lord is the strength of my life; **Of whom shall I be afraid?**” Psalms 27:1 NKJV

1. Don't get anxious...pray, plea and thank
2. Do so and you will have guaranteed supernatural peace
3. Whom shall you fear? NO ONE!

#### **D. But if you are tempted to be afraid...**

(1) Do this...

(a) “**Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You.** In God (I will praise His word), In God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?” Psalms 56:3-4 NKJV

(b) “Therefore **humble yourselves** under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, **casting all your care upon Him**, for He cares for you.” I Peter 5:6-7 NKJV

(c) “**I sought the Lord, and He heard me, And delivered me from all my fears.**” Psalms 34:4 NKJV

1. Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in Yahweh.
2. Humble myself and cast all my cares upon Him.

3. Seek Him and know He will hear and deliver me  
from my fears!

(2) Remember this...

(a) "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, **I will fear no evil**; For You are with me; **Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.**" Psalms 23:4 NKJV

(b) "Though an army may encamp against me, **My heart shall not fear**; Though war may rise against me, In this **I will be confident.**" Psalms 27:3 NKJV

(c) "Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. **There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear**, because fear involves torment. **But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.**" I John 4:17-18 NKJV

1. I will fear no evil...your rod and staff comfort me!

2. My heart shall not fear...I will be confident!

3. Let love be perfected in my as Love casts out fear!

#### **E. Words of our Savior**

(1) Don't Worry; My yoke is easy!

(a) "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. **Take My yoke upon** you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and

you will find rest for your souls. For **My yoke is easy and My burden is light.**" Matthew 11:28-30 NKJV

- (b) ""Therefore I say to you, **do not worry about your life**, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?... {31} **"Therefore do not worry**, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' **For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.** But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore **do not worry about tomorrow**, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

Matthew 6:25, 31-34 NKJV

- (c) ""Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. **You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake**, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. **But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak.** For it will be given to you in

that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.”

Matthew 10:16-20 NKJV

1. Take My yoke upon; My yoke is easy and My burden is light...
2. Don't worry!
3. Don't worry!
4. Don't worry!
5. **Did I say...Don't worry!**

**Summary:** MY YOKE IS EASY

1. He's got you, so what are you worried about?!
2. Moses', Y'shua's and James' words about fear, trials, destination and provision all align.
  - (a) Do not be terrified or afraid :: Let not your hearts be troubled
  - (b) Yahweh goes before you :: I go to prepare a place for you
  - (c) Yahweh carries you all the way to your destination :: I will come again, where I am you will also be
  - (d) Yahweh has blessed all the work of your hand :: Count it all joy
  - (e) Even though you trudged through the wilderness :: Even though you faced various trials

(f) In the end you lacked nothing :: In the end you lacked nothing

3. Don't lose faith in fearful times! How? Remember what He did...

(a) Your eyes have seen what Yahweh will do!

(b) Fear not, for I am with you; I will help you

(c) All those against you shall perish and be: ashamed, disgraced, nothing, a nonexistent thing...

(d) Fear not, I will help you.

4. Do not be afraid...MORE REMINDERS

(a) What can man do to me?

(b) Fear of man brings a snare.

(c) What can flesh do to me?

(d) What can man do to me?

(e) It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man or princes.

(f) Who are you that you should be afraid of a man who will die?

(g) Do not fear those who kill the body.

(h) Do not fear nor be afraid...It's a command!

(i) Be anxious for nothing! There is nothing to be anxious about.

(j) Don't get anxious...pray, plea and thank and you are guaranteed supernatural peace.

- (k) Whom shall you fear? NO ONE!
- 5. But if you are tempted to be afraid...Do this...
  - (a) Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in Yahweh.
  - (b) Humble myself and cast all my cares upon Him.
  - (c) Seek Him and know He will hear me and deliver me from my fears!
- 6. But if you are tempted to be afraid...Remember this...
  - (a) I will fear no evil...your rod and staff comfort me!
  - (b) My heart shall not fear...I will be confident!
  - (c) Love casts out fear!
- 7. Words of our Savior: "Take My yoke upon; My yoke is easy and My burden is light..."

## YOU LACK NOTHING

### 2. **Enough already? Or, enough already!**

#### A. They lacked nothing and it was all a test!

##### (1) Israel

- (a) ""For the Lord your God has blessed you in all the work of your hand. He knows your trudging through **this great wilderness**. These forty years the Lord your God has been with you; you have **lacked nothing**." ""

Deuteronomy 2:7 NKJV

(b) “And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you **and test you**, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.” Deuteronomy 8:2 NKJV

## **B. You lack nothing and it’s all a test!**

(1) Christians

(a) “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into **various trials**, knowing that the **testing of your faith** produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, **lacking nothing**.” James 1:2-4 NKJV

(b) “as His divine power has given to us **all things that pertain to life and godliness**, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,” II Peter 1:3 NKJV

## **C. What is your test?**

(1) Enough already? Or, enough already!

(a) You have been tested by trials in your own wilderness and have come out lacking nothing! Do you still believe, “I’m not good enough. I’m not not smart enough. I’m not rich enough. I don’t have enough?”

- (b) Has He been faithful? Have you testimonies of His deliverance, many such testimonies?
- (c) What is your default setting when you face various trials? Do you loose faith? Do you lose heart? Is He enough?
- (d) Do you believe Paul? *“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”*  
(Philippians 4:19 NKJV)
- (e) Do you have enough already? Or do you need more?

**Summary: YOU LACK NOTHING**

1. Enough already? Or, enough already!
2. Israel lacked nothing and it was all a test!
3. You lack nothing and it's all a test!
4. What is your test? Enough already? Or, enough already!
  - (a) You have been tested by trials in your own wilderness and have come out lacking nothing! Do you still believe, “I’m not good enough. I’m not not smart enough. I’m not rich enough. I don’t have enough?”
  - (b) Has He been faithful? Have you testimonies of His deliverance, many such testimonies?
  - (c) What is your default setting when you face various trials? Do you loose faith? Do you lose heart? Is He enough?



- (d) Do you believe Paul? *“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”*  
(Philippians 4:19 NKJV)
- (e) Do you have enough already? Or do you need more?

## PRECIOUS PROMISES

### 3. A Historical Reminder

#### A. Moses looking back at the wilderness journey...

- (1) Forty years after they left Egypt, Moses reminds Israel of all they had been through and how they **MUST REMEMBER** how faithful Yahweh has been!
  - (a) “Now it came to pass **in the fortieth year**, in the eleventh month, on the first day of the month, that Moses spoke to the children of Israel **according to all that the Lord had given him** as commandments to them,” Deuteronomy 1:3 NKJV
- (2) Possess the Land! It’s a command!
  - (a) “See, I have set the land before you; **go in and possess the land** which the Lord swore to your fathers—to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—to give to them and their descendants after them.” Deuteronomy 1:8 NKJV
  - (b) “Look, the Lord your God has set the land before you; go up and **possess it**, as the Lord God of your fathers

has spoken to you; do not fear or be discouraged.”

Deuteronomy 1:21 NKJV

- (c) ““Then **I commanded you** at that time, saying: ‘The Lord your **God has given you this land to possess**. All you men of valor shall cross over armed before your brethren, the children of Israel.” Deuteronomy 3:18 NKJV
  - (d) **Reminder: He commended you!** And... “If you love Me, **keep My commandments.**” John 14:15 NKJV
- (3) God has multiplied you!

- (a) “The Lord your **God has multiplied you**, and here you are today, as the stars of heaven in multitude. May the Lord God of your fathers make you **a thousand times more numerous than you are**, and bless you as He has promised you!” Deuteronomy 1:10-11 NKJV

1. Moses reminds them of the explosive prophetic declaration he made back then: *“May the LORD God of your fathers make you **a thousand times more numerous than you are**, and bless you as He has promised you!”* (Deuteronomy 1:11 NKJV) The estimated number of Israelites at that moment was approximately **2.5 to 3 million**. That means he was prophesying that there would be **2.5 to 3 billion**

children of God! Presently, how close might we be to that number? How many Christians have there been if we estimate all those who have become believers since then, including all those alive today?

(4) Don't act presumptuously with Yahweh—it never works!

(a) “So I spoke to you; yet you would not listen, but rebelled against the command of the Lord, and **presumptuously** went up into the mountain.”

Deuteronomy 1:43 NKJV

(b) “And the Amorites who dwelt in that mountain came out against you and chased you as bees do, **and drove you back** from Seir to Hormah.” Deuteronomy 1:44

NKJV “Then you returned and wept before the Lord, but the Lord **would not listen** to your voice nor give ear to you.” Deuteronomy 1:45 NKJV

(5) Yahweh is against your enemies!

(a) “For indeed the hand of **the Lord was against them**, to destroy them from the midst of the camp until they were consumed.” Deuteronomy 2:15 NKJV

(6) The Head and NOT the Tail!

(a) “This day **I will begin to put the dread and fear of you upon the nations** under the whole heaven, who shall

hear the report of you, and shall tremble and be in anguish because of you.'" Deuteronomy 2:25 NKJV

(7) No city will be stronger than you!

(a) "From Aroer, which is on the bank of the River Arnon, and from the city that is in the ravine, as far as Gilead, **there was not one city too strong for us**; the Lord our God delivered all to us." Deuteronomy 2:36 NKJV

(8) He fights for you!

(a) "'And I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, 'Your eyes have seen all that the Lord your God has done to these two kings; so will the Lord do to all the kingdoms through which you pass. You must not fear them, **for the Lord your God Himself fights for you.**'" Deuteronomy 3:21-22 NKJV

(9) Six Promises

(a) You have been:

1. Given possession of the Promised Land
2. Prophesied to multiply 1000 fold
3. Protected from your enemies
4. Made the head and not the tail
5. Made stronger than every nation
6. Fought for by the Creator of the Universe

**B. Peter looks back at his discipling journey...** *(Read II Peter, all three chapters, and concentrate for now on II Peter 1:1-15)*

(1) A reminder!

(a) “For this reason I will not be negligent **to remind you** always of these things, **though you know and are established in the present truth.** Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, **knowing that shortly I must put off my tent,** just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. Moreover I will **be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease.**” II Peter 1:12-15 NKJV

1. Peter says he is about to die and that the powerful and essential discipleship truths he is about to write should not be new to them. They are a **reminder** of what they are ALREADY established in, and Peter is writing them down to serve as a **reminder** after his death!

(2) **The foundation everything is built upon:** Free Faith (II Peter 1:1)

(a) Faith—the free gift from Yahweh

1. The faith that it takes to believe Y’shua is the son of God, and that He was crucified, buried, and resurrected for you is a FREE GIFT FROM YAHWEH.

2. You did not want it; you cannot earn it; you were not bad enough or good enough for it; you were not desperate enough or content enough for it, you were not lost enough or deserving enough for it; you were not anything enough to receive this free gift. IT IS SIMPLY FREE!

3. It is the foundation of all things. Without it you are nothing, and with it you are everything. It is the spiritual substance that makes up the universe. It is the very thing that Peter uses to identify himself and to those whom he writes, as equals—“to those with like-precious faith as mine.”

(b) **The only way to obtain that faith:** The righteousness of Christ (II Peter 1:1)

(3) **If you are willing to do the work of a disciple, then here are...**

(a) Six Precious Promises:

1. Access to Divine Power (II Peter 1:3)
2. Have everything we need for a Godly life (II Peter 1:3)
3. Participate in the divine nature (II Peter 1:4)
4. Escape the corruption in the world (II Peter 1:4)
5. Be neither barren nor unfruitful (II Peter 1:8)

6. Gain an abundant entrance into the Kingdom (II Peter 1:11)

(4) **Seven things you must add to your free faith if you want all the above promises.**

(a) **This is NOT FREE! Add:** Virtue, Knowledge, Self Control, Perseverance, Godliness, Brotherly Love, Love (II Peter 1:5-7)

**1. Virtue—always the first thing that follows faith and must precede all others, or your coordinates will ALWAYS be off target!**

- a) The world calls this moral excellence. The problem with that definition for our purposes is that morality to the world is an ever-changing moving target. What was considered unacceptable yesterday is perfectly fine today. As a matter of fact, today it is intolerable to have thought such things from yesterday as unacceptable. This is what happens when man's heart is used to define virtue.
- b) Instead, for our purposes, we will simply define virtue as what is right in God's eyes. To build upon our faith we must always ask this question first: "What is right to God in this situation?" In other words, what does Yahweh think about this?

- c) And in order to know how to answer that question, we must be able to tap into the heart of God. Fortunately for us, we have not only the rights to do this (as free Faith gave us this right), but we have the ability and command to do so. We are told that “We have the mind of Christ,” and we are instructed to “take all thoughts captive unto the obedience of Christ.”
- d) We start with knowing what is right in God’s eyes before we attempt to add one bit of knowledge.

**2. Knowledge—is what you need to know in order to act wisely!**

- a) To do what is right in God’s eyes we must fill in the knowledge gap. What do I need to know? What am I missing?
- b) This applies first in the spiritual realm as Paul prays for us by asking that God will give us a spirit of revelation and knowledge. About what? About all things that pertain to Y’shua, what He has done for us and what we have available at our disposal because of what He has done for us.
- c) If you add knowledge before you aim in the right direction (which would be virtuous thing to do),



then no matter how much knowledge you gain, no matter how much of an expert you become, YOU WILL ALWAYS MISS THE TARGET.

- d) This, of course, assumes you want to hit the target that Yahweh is holding out for you. Do you?
- e) But once you see the target and you know all you need to do to hit that target, it takes energy and effort to hit it! I can assure you of this, at that point challenges, distractions and difficulties will come. That is why you must always add self-control next.

### **3. Self-control—don't follow your first impulses and desires!**

- a) It is desirous to default to what appears easier. It can be tiring as you pursue the call of God, and even in the little things in life, you must be on constant guard that you are staying the course that He has laid out for you.
- b) Expedience is the spirit of the day—do what is easier, takes less effort, gets the quick flesh-satisfying results, and leaves plenty of energy to fill your life with more stuff that satisfies your craven desires.

- c) Telling yourself no, when yes is so tempting. And telling yourself yes, when no would be so much more convenient, is a life of self-control.
- d) Self-governance and self-mastery are regular practices for disciples of Christ. But I don't mean this from a personal improvement self-help point of view. I am talking about dying to the flesh because you are filled with the Spirit!
- e) Knowing the right thing to do never translates into doing the right thing unless you are a regular practitioner of self-control.
- f) And then, there is always that lingering question when what you know you should do, you do, and you know it is right in God's eyes, so you keep on doing it, and you're sure about it, but it just does not seem to be paying off or getting any easier? How long do you stay with it?
- g) The answer is...FOREVER! And that is why God tells us that perseverance comes next!

**4. Perseverance—doing what is right no matter how hard or how long it takes!**

- a) In this world you will have trials, Y'shua said. Also, it is through many tribulations we enter the Kingdom of Heaven, we learn from the scriptures.
- b) It is clear that suffering, and challenges, and difficulties are part of the process. If Y'shua suffered, why not us? And that is where perseverance shines!
- c) Think of perseverance as PERMANENT SELF-CONTROL. You know what is right from God; you know what to do and how to do it; you discipline yourself to do it; and then it just won't happen; the fruit is elusive; the breakthrough absent; the hope starts to fade.
- d) Don't ever surrender! Don't give up. As Paul even says, "don't grow weary in doing good—in due time you will receive the harvest if you don't give up!" That is perseverance: permanent, relentless, never-ending self control.
- e) When you can arrive at this place in your spiritual life, and it is translating into all other facets of your life, then Yahweh wants you to add another component! It's an awesome label and it too has

wonderful applications in the natural world in which we live.

**5. Godliness —let's call this holistic integrity!**

- a) This will make more sense if we take a look at the inner workings of integrity. Think of integrity as a structural engineering term. When a structure is designed correctly, it has integrity—it functions safely as it should and can be trusted.
- b) You don't want to cross a bridge over a deep chasm if the cables were used under the bridge to hold it up and the concrete blocks were used on the top as suspension support, do you? Instead, you want materials to be used for why they were created!
- c) Suspension cables are at their best when they are suspending something. Why? Because they are designed to have strength when they are being pulled. Concrete is at its best when it is used to hold something up from below. Why? Because it is designed to have strength when it is compressed.
- d) When all facets of the bridge are in integrity, it is safe to cross and will offer years of faithful service to those who traverse the deep valley below.

- e) Godliness is spiritual integrity. This means that your Spirit, soul and body are all in complete alignment, doing what they designed to do by their creator. There is no loss of strength in any area—thereby we are living with holistic integrity.
- f) This alignment comes with great benefits; picture the favor of God pouring out of Heaven like rain, and all you must do is stand underneath it, in other words align yourself with where the rain is falling. If you are not standing under the cloud of God's glory pouring out, what do you think you should do? Will God move over to you, or must you move under God's outpouring? Stepping underneath or "aligning" ourselves with God's outpouring, His anointing, in all areas of life, is a life of spiritual integrity, or Godliness.
- g) This is something that must be practiced; it will not come easily, but it is certainly how we are called to live. Paul even encouraged us to be sanctified (set-apart) in Spirit, soul, and body at the coming of Christ.

- h) Once we have alignment, we are ready to pour ourselves and all this goodness out onto others. That is why the way we relate with others is next.

**6. Brotherly Kindness—It's simple, but not easy...prefer others!**

- a) A serious disciple of Christ has so much to give others. Just meditate for a moment on all that we just reviewed and think about the type of person you have become to arrive at this place!
- b) You have so many good things pouring into your life, but why? What for?
- c) Christian Alert! It's not about you! It's easy to see that all that Christ did for us was about us, not Himself. That is the model of how we should live...for others. No greater love is there than to lay down our lives for others, like Y'shua did.
- d) It reminds me how Y'shua was careful to quote two areas of scripture when asked about the greatest commandment. One from Deuteronomy 6, love God! And the other from Leviticus 19, love your neighbor! But it also tells us how how to love others in those Leviticus verses. Don't stand by and watch your neighbor sin and say NOTHING.

Instead, you shall rebuke him and NOT put up with their sins. That is brotherly love at its best!

- e) Let's face it, there is no way to be crafted into the image of Christ, and let's have no doubts, that is our calling, without first being able to switch positions. Others first for me first. Let me say that again. There is no way to be crafted into the image of Christ, without first being able to switch positions. Others first for me first!
- f) When you know the heart of God, know what and how to do what He calls you to do, have the self-control and self-discipline to do it, no matter how long it takes or how hard it is, and you have become resolute to never give up, and you live your life in perfect alignment with God in all facets, Spirit, soul and body, and have arrived at the place where you can, with all honesty say, "My life is not my own; it's about others," you are ready to tap the Divine Nature!

## **7. Love—God is love, plain and simple!**

- a) Peter tells us in II Peter 1:4 that we have the rights to participate in the Divine Nature. Pause and think about this promise!

- b) We can experience God in us! We can have the mind of God and think like God. WE CAN LOVE LIKE GOD!
- c) God's nature is love. And love is many things, a many faceted diamond. But love is definitely not an emotion or feeling. It is a willful, on purpose decision. Love's all encompassing, uncompromisable description is best elaborated in I Corinthians 13. If all 16 attributes are not at work, at the same time, always, then we are not talking love.
- d) Love is all things all the time—God is love. It is the pinnacle of the discipleship model, the goal of the path to the divine nature. It is the full stature and image of Christ which is the ultimate goal and mandate for the existence of the church!

**(5) And the one thing that will block you from receiving God's promises and partaking in the divine nature...**

- (a) Forgetting you have already been cleansed from your past sins. (II Peter 1:9)
- (b) This is beyond radically important. If you were inspired by all that is available to you as a believer, and how to



achieve everything God wants for you, then you better take heed to the **ONE THING** that will stop you!

(c) DO NOT wallow in your past sins. Leave them exactly where they are—in YOUR PAST!

**C. Important Teaching that support this content:**

- (1) [Spiritual Amnesia](#)
- (2) [Precious Promises](#)
- (3) [The Path to the Divine Nature — Foundational Teaching](#)
- (4) [The Path to the Divine Nature — Workshop](#)
- (5) [The Path to the Divine Nature — Scripture Resources](#)

**Summary: PRECIOUS PROMISES**

1. Moses looking back at the wilderness journey...Forty years after they left Egypt, reminds Israel of all they had been through and how they **MUST REMEMBER** how faithful Yahweh has been!

(d) Six Promises—You have been:

- 1) Given possession of the Promised Land
- 2) Prophesied to multiply 1000 fold
- 3) Protected from your enemies
- 4) Made the head and not the tail
- 5) Made stronger than every nation
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2. Peter looks back at his discipling journey... Peter says he is about to die and the powerful and essential discipleship truths he is about to write should not be new to them. They are a **reminder** of what they are ALREADY fully established in, and Peter is writing them down to serve as a constant **reminder** after his death!

- (a) The foundation everything is built upon: Free Faith
- (b) The only way to obtain that faith: The righteousness of Christ
- (c) If you are willing to do the work of a disciple, then here are... Six Precious Promises:
  - 1) Access Divine Power
  - 2) Have everything we need for a Godly life
  - 3) Participate in the divine nature
  - 4) Escape the corruption in the world
  - 5) Be neither barren or unfruitful
  - 6) Gain an abundant entrance into the Kingdom
- (d) Seven things you must add to your free faith if you want all the above promises. This is NOT FREE! Add:
  - 1) Virtue
  - 2) Knowledge
  - 3) Self Control
  - 4) Perseverance
  - 5) Godliness

- 6) Brotherly Love
  - 7) Love
3. And the one thing that will block you from receiving God's promises and partaking in the divine nature...
- (a) Forgetting you have already been cleansed from your past sins. (II Peter 1:9)
  - (b) This is beyond radically important. If you were inspired by all that is available to you as a believer, and how to achieve everything God wants for you, then you better take heed to the ONE THING that will stop you!
  - (c) DO NOT wallow in your past sins. Leave them exactly where they are—in YOUR PAST!

## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

**1. How has the Lord carried you in times of great trials? \*Fill in the blanks...**

- A. You must not \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(1)</sup> them, for the Lord your God Himself \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(2)</sup> for you. (*Deut. 3:21-22*)
- B. Yahweh carries you as a man carries his \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(3)</sup>. (*Deut. 1:29-31*)
- C. What is Yahweh's consistent reminder when it comes to the fear of man?

D. What does He tell us to do when we are afraid?

**2. Compare Deuteronomy 2:7 with James 1:2-4 and then Deuteronomy 1:29-31 with John 14:1-4:**

A. What are the obvious commonalities?

B. Why should you be confident that you already have all you need at your disposal?

**3. Moses takes us on a historical journey of reminders and promises in the book of Deuteronomy:**

A. Extract and describe six promises of Yahweh in Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22.

**4. Peter, in his second letter, also reminds God's people of His promises (II Peter 1:12-15):**

A. Extract and describe six promises of Yahweh in II Peter 1:1-15

B. What is everything built upon?

C. What are the seven steps to receiving those promises?

D. What is the one thing that will get in the way every time?

***\*Blanks in question one: fear<sup>(1)</sup> fights<sup>(2)</sup> son<sup>(3)</sup>***