

**Deuteronomy 1:1-46 The right thing at the wrong time is the wrong thing 09.02.20**  
(Page 178 NIV Pew Bible)

**Context**

- 1] Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt (yr = 0) to Mt Sinai (Horeb) where they received the Law (Ex1-Nu 10:10)
- 2] The Israelites set out for Canaan (Nu 10:11) and reach the edge, wilderness of Paran (Nu12:16)
- 3] 12 Spies are sent out, only 2 are faithful. (Nu 13)
- 4] The people rebel – God judges = 40 yrs in wilderness, none of generation shall enter (Nu 14)
- 5] After 40 yrs, in Moab, opposite Jericho, ready to enter. Moses gives Law again. ‘Deuteronomy Copy of Law. Lit =2<sup>nd</sup> Law

**An overview (1-8)**

**(1-3)** Eleven days Mt Sinai to Kadesh Barnea – took 40 yrs

*Nb 40<sup>th</sup> year from Passover instruction (Ex 12:2)*

*\*The Lord gives His commandments through the words that Moses spoke to ‘all Israel’ (3) \**

**(5)** Beyond the Jordan in land of Moab, Moses ‘explains Law’ 2<sup>nd</sup>/copy of Law

*Nb Why does he give the Law a second time? (cf Ex 24:12)*

**(6-8)** The commission at Horeb (Sinai) take possession of land promised to Ab, Is & Jacob

*??? Chs 1-3) Why does the Lord rehearse so fully the situation of the 40 yrs in the wilderness*

*Nb The Lord said you have stayed long enough at Horeb (Ex 33:1)*

*land swore to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob (Gen12:2-6; 26:2,3; 28:13-15)*

*\*Learn from where you have been with God (6)\**

*\*The Lord instructs us to go in and take possession of the land given you by Him (8)\**

*\*Go in and take possession (actively) of all that the Lord has given you (8)\**

**Judges’ appointed (9-19)**

**(9-12)** numerous as stars of heaven how can I bear the weight

*Cf as numerous as the stars (Gen 15:5)*

*\*Learn to delegate tasks that you need to share (9)\**

*\* The Lord keeps His promises – descendants as numerous as the stars (10)*

**(13-15)** Choose wise, understanding and experienced men

*cf Jethro’s advice (Ex 18:14)*

*\*As Godly leaders, look for ‘wise, understanding and experienced’ people (13)*

*\*Note: Godly leaders are impartial, treat small and great alike and are not intimidated (13)\**

**(16-18)** Judge righteously -all (brother or alien), partially, small & great alike, fearlessly- judgement is God’s

*Nb judges for God!*

*Cf Shall the judge of all the earth not do right. (Gen 18:25)*

*\*The Lord is the Judge (17)\**

**Israel’s disobedience (20-33)**

**(19-21)** travelled to Kadesh Barnea. ‘Go. Take possession as the Lord told you’

*Cf Do not fear or be dismayed (Josh1:9)*

*\*God commanded.... Gave .... told you about (19,21,25)\**

**(22-25)** send spies? – 12 one per tribe – good land that the Lord is giving us

*Cf Spies sent out (13:1ff)*

*\*Obey God straight away- don’t play for time (22)\**

**(26-28)** But rebellion. Murmured, The Lord hated us!!! – Giants!

*Cf Murmured (Josh 9:18; Ps 106:25)*

*Cf no-one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the Kingdom of God (Lk 9:62)*

*\*Do not rebel against God’s plan (26)\**

\*Do not murmur in the seclusion of your own homes (27)\*

Never accuse the Lord of hating you (27)\*

29-31) Don't be afraid - The Lord your God will fight **for** you- he will carry you as a son

*Cf Though the fig tree does not blossom ..... yet will I rejoice in the Lord (Hab 3:17,18)*

*I have loved you with an everlasting love (Jer 31:3)*

GRACE The Lord fights for you

GRACE The Lord 'carries' His people

\*If you are obeying God don't be daunted by the odds – the Lord will fight for you (29)\*

\*Let the Lord carry you (31)\*

**(32,33)** In spite of this, you did not believe the Lord

\*The Lord directs our paths (33)\*

## **God's judgement on them (34-40)**

**(34)** God's anger

\*The Lord hears what we say – everything! (34)\*

**(35-38)** Not one of this evil generation shall enter – inc Moses (37) – except Caleb and Joshua

*Cf Joshua and Caleb 'wholly followed the Lord' (Josh 14:8,9)*

\*The Lord is incisive in judgement (35)\*

The Lord blesses those who trust believe in Him (36/38)\*

\*The Lord will by-pass anyone who does not believe and trust in Him (37)\*

\*Wholly follow the Lord – like Caleb and Joshua (36)\*

\*Do not give yourself the benefit of the doubt when it comes to sin (37)\*

\*Encourage faithful leaders (38)\*

**(39)** Your children will possess it – no knowledge of good and evil

*Cf Knowledge of Good and evil (Gen 2:9)*

**(40)** As for you, turn away

\*The Lord will turn His back on continuing wilful sin\*

## **Israel's response (41-46)**

**(41)** People repented – 'easy to go up'

*Cf David 'Sinned against the Lord' (Ps 51:4)*

Note: Repentance is not enough – it needs obedience too.

Note: the right thing at the wrong time is the wrong thing

**(42)** Lord said 'no' – defeated

**(43)** Ignored me, rebelled against the Lord's command, **presumed**

*Cf And the Philistines came up yet again... and David enquired of the Lord (2 Sam 5:22f)*

\*Do not presume on the Lord's path on the basis of previous experience\*

**(44,45)** Amorites defeated you, you wept, the Lord did not listen

\*When you flagrantly disobey God, He may cease to 'hear' your prayers (45)\*

**MP** *The evil will not but only those who believe and obey Him will receive His promises.*

**KV** *Not one of these men of this evil generation shall see the good land I swore to give your forefathers, except Caleb ..... because he wholly followed the Lord ..... (and) Joshua (35f)*

*Moses rehearses the lead up to God's first instruction 40 yrs ago to go in and take the promised land (1-8)*

*He reminds he shared 'judging' among the people – of 1000s, 100s, 50s, 10s (9-18)*

*Arriving at the edge of the promised land that asked to send spies in first. You balked at the report and rebelled against God rejecting His Word / His leading (19-33)*

*The Lord pronounced that only Joshua and Caleb of all Israel would enter the promised land.*

*You belatedly tried to enter ignoring the Lord's warning and were repelled by the Amorites*