

# Deuteronomy Lesson 9



Warning against self-righteousness

When they possess Canaan  
unless they remember how they  
got the land they could become  
prideful and self-righteous

- The fundamental principles in Deuteronomy are found through out the New Testament.
- Chapter 9 though 10:11 is a section that deals with self-righteousness





- As the first generation of Israelites misread the character of God and his love now as the second generation prepares to go into Canaan they could also misread the love of God in giving them the land.
- There is the danger of thinking they are better than everyone else, and they receive the land because of who they are.
- That is exactly the philosophy that the Jews developed and still have today.

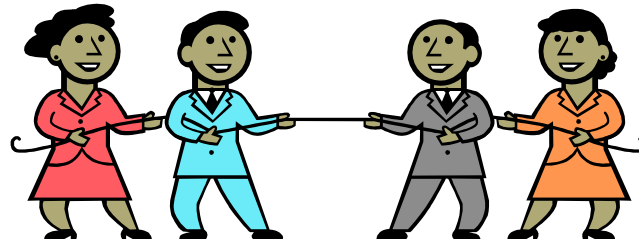
# In chapter nine Moses gives them the REASONS why God gave them the land of Canaan

- Not because they were superior people
- One reason was it included the wickedness of the of Canaan
- It was God's judgment against sin of the Canaanites.
- It was in fulfillment to God's promise to Abraham.



# Learn the lesson of God's Grace

- They are receiving the land out of the grace of God not because of merit.
- The section beginning in chapter 10:12 through 11 will emphasize the importance of obedience
- The warning here is against self-righteousness and in the midst of the discussion he talks of grace and obedience, There is no conflict with grace and obedience.



# Remember Moses' Warnings

- Warns against misreading the trials of life to think God doesn't love us.
- Warns against misreading the blessings of life become self-sufficient and forget God
- Warns against misreading the goodness of God and decide that God is good to us because of who we are.



- Do we sometimes get to thinking about the world and their being lost and say, “that is their hard luck.”
- The world was lost when someone came to us and brought the gospel to us.
- Suppose they had said, well it is Barry’s hard luck. Where would I be today? You?
- Let’s not misread God’s goodness and think I’m special that is why I’m saved.
- God gave them Canaan not on the basis of their merit but on the basis of the goodness of God but at the same time it was conditional – they had to obey.
- Salvation is by grace appropriated by obedience of faith



# Remember the Exodus

- It was by grace that God brought them out of Egypt, no other reason, not by merit.
- Joshua 24 he reminds them while they were in Egypt they became involved in idolatry like the Egyptians.
- God's grace called upon them to give it up and obey him, That is the same grace all through out the Bible.

# Faith that appropriates Grace involves two principles

- Trust towards God
- Action on the part of man to demonstrate that trust – the action acceptable to God is always specified by God and man is to obey in the designated way.
- It is not left up to man to come up with his own way to show God trust.
- The only merit involved in salvation is the atonement of the blood of Christ.
- In Romans 1:5 and 16:25,26 Paul says he became an apostle so he could preach about the “obedience of faith”



# Deuteronomy 9:1

- They as a small nation were going to take over other larger nations.
- The lesson is that it was not on their own power.
- This is a lesson the Jews forgot





# Deuteronomy 9:3-6



- Everything they did in getting into the land of Canaan was through the obedience of faith.
- How many of the original ones who left Egypt reach Canaan?
- Joshua and Caleb through God's grace appropriated by their obedience of faith, (works of righteousness) not by their works of merit, not on their own goodness.

# Works of Righteousness

- Every work of faith is a non-meritorious work, it doesn't matter what it is.
- When it is an action of faith it is not an action of merit. (Ephesians 2:8-10)
- When they took Jericho it was not by works of merit but by works of righteousness, obedience of faith.
- False doctrine of faith only would have had them sit down and wait for walls to fall



# Deuteronomy 9:17



- Moses breaking the tables of stone symbolizes them breaking the commandments before he has the opportunity of giving it to them.
- This is place here in the chapter so that they would avoid developing the spirit of self-righteousness.
- How could they ever think they were better than the people of Canaan for when Moses was on the mountain receiving the commandments they were violating the first commandment.

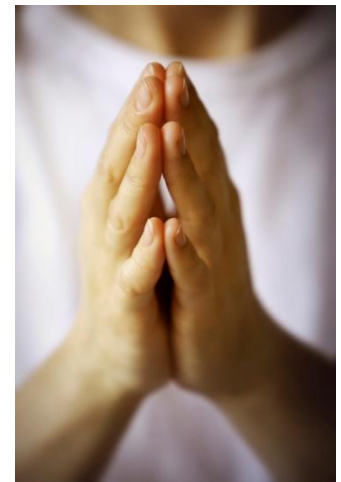
# Deuteronomy 9:18,19

- Moses intercedes for them. Why was he interceding for them if they were better than anyone else? Answer – They were not better or self-righteous, they needed intercession.



# Deuteronomy 9:20

- The very priest they had was guilty of sin.
- Moses had to pray
- Think about every time you and I pray we have to go through the intercession of Jesus Christ! It ought to remind us never to develop the spirit of self-righteousness
- There is no place for it.
- I can not talk to God except through intercession.



# Deuteronomy 9:28

- Prayer of Moses was not only about Israel but it was about teaching other nations.
- It shows that the nations around them would read the events of Israel and show them that Israel's God was not an idol.
- Moses did not intend for God to spare them apart from intercession, penitence and sacrifice.



# The events of the Old Testament

- Show that God was revealing himself.
- Yes the law was given to the Jews and not the Gentiles but I do not believe that God forgot about the rest of the world for 1500 years.
- Nor do I believe that the Patriarchal priesthood continued down through this time.
- Here is one of the many ways God revealed himself to the Gentile world. Not through the Law or written word but through the events.
- Israel was to be light to other nations. Isaiah 43:10 says they were to be a witness – to whom? Other nations.

