

THE DEUTERONOMY FIVE

Part 2 • July 26, 2026 | Pastor St. John Eyre

A PROMISE IN THE MAKING

Deuteronomy focuses on remembrance of God and His Word. It was mostly written by Moses (later parts most likely written by Joshua have Moses' death).

Israel was now ready to enter the promise land. 40 years of wandering was coming to an end. While they will make this entry physically, Moses wants to make sure they are ready spiritually.

There was now a new generation, a changing of the guard. Many of them were under the age of 20 when they came out of Egypt.

This book is a book of instructions, the most often quoted in the NT.

Deuteronomy - The people are being challenged to remember where they had been, what worked well, and what went bad? It's really about remembering your boundaries. Remembering to stay in your lane.

Let me quickly set the scene for what has led up to the book of Deuteronomy: The entire nation of Israelites was about to go through a change. A promise was made to Abraham by God about a promised land. 40 years of wandering, older generation died off and younger generation left behind. Moses has done well mostly but will not be completing the journey to the promised land. The future looks bright for the younger nation but it's gonna have to clear some hurdles. God has a plan

Out of those 5 things I just mentioned the most important is that **God has a plan.**

Change does not always come easy. In fact, I would say that the older a person gets the harder it is to look forward to change. A young family getting ready to move to a new state with a new career launching is an exciting time in their lives. An older person who is told sugar is no longer their friend does not look forward to that change. But no matter what comes our way we can always remember this:

DEUTERONOMY 31:8 (NIV)

"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

For Parkway Christian Center, God has a plan. For your life, God has a plan. For your kids, God has a plan. For your generations yet to come, God has a plan. It is God's plan for our lives to prosper and for our futures to be bright.

The question I want to ask is not "Are you living the dream?" The question I want to ask is "Are you living the promise?"

I'm always struck about how God loved Moses so much yet withheld him from the promised land. God allowed him to see it from Mt Nebo. I often wonder, how did Moses feel when his eyes saw the promise. Some speculate it may have been normal to feel anger or bitterness. But it could also be like a great grandparent who sees their great grandchild take their first step and be so excited for the promise of the future even though they themselves will not be there for part of it.

There was a plan God had for Moses but then that plan changes when Moses disobeyed God and lacked trust.

NUMBERS 20:12 (NIV)

But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them."

So now Moses is in a penalty box called the wilderness for 40 years. Was he ever going to be used by God again or does God prefer to just toss us aside. With God there is such a thing as a Lost Cause. The history of the Bible shows us that Moses earlier tried to deliver the people out of Egypt but the problem was he tried to do it under his own strength. Remember the term "Work Smarter, Not Harder."

Would any of you want to try and lead an entire nation to a place of promise, or a sanctuary on your own? No wonder that in Exodus Moses had to be encouraged by God when he said "Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh? Who am I that I should bring them out?"

TRUTH #1: IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU. IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT GOD

Listen to me church. When we consistently put God first and get ourselves out of the way big things are going to happen. When we put God first, revival has permission to come. When we put God first, marriages are strengthened. When we put God first, promises from scripture can be fulfilled.

Ask your heart right now, have I put God first in every aspect of my life? If not, it's never too late to make some changes. God had big plans for Moses and he has big plans for every one of you too.

God equips us with everything we need. God gives us life situations to enrich our abilities. Think of it as spiritual on-the-job training.

God can perfect a place you but you may feel a bit misplaced. The best I can compare this to is an 18 year old moving to a distant college campus and it being the first time away from their family. It's a bit awkward, a bit out of sorts. Like wandering in the desert, but it has such potential to lead to something great.

There is an appointed time coming when God tells each of us, it's time to make a move, to make an advancement, or to break out into new territory:

DEUTERONOMY 1:6 & 8 (NIV)

The Lord our God said to us at Horeb, "You have stayed long enough at this mountain. Break camp and advance... See, I have given you this land. Go in and take possession of the land that the Lord said he would give to your fathers."

So what could God be calling you to at this point in your life? It's a big world out there, filled with dying souls. Maybe your move is not a physical relocation or a move to change something in your life to get you out of your desert.

TRUTH #2: GOD HAS EQUIPPED YOU WITH EVERYTHING YOU NEED

Your life experiences help prepare you for much of your future.

Bringing a first-born child home usually involves a husband and a wife who both feel so very in over their heads but the truth is, they know more than they give themselves credit for. And if all else fails go back to Truth #1 – It's not about you, It's always about God. That should get you a bit farther down the road.

You see, God has been forming things in you. God has been making deposits into your life; life experiences, life struggles, life victories.

Most people never know what they are truly capable of until they try. Saying, "You will miss 100% of the shots you never take!" is so very true.

I have spent a better part of my life telling myself, "Who says you can't do something?" We often limit our own potential; we talk ourselves out of our promises. Moses even tried to convince God that he was the wrong man for the job of leading people out of Egypt. He couldn't even talk without stuttering.

Imagine us, in all our infinite wisdom trying to bargain with God. I mean, we have such huge ideas, we are convinced that our way is greater. Our battle plan is more achievable. Our way makes more sense.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:27 MESSAGE BIBLE

Take a good look, friends, at who you were when you got called into this life. I don't see many of "the brightest and the best" among you, not many influential, not many from high-society families. Isn't it obvious that God deliberately chose men and women that the culture overlooks and exploits and abuses, chose these "nobodies" to expose the hollow pretensions of the "somebodies"? That makes it quite clear that none of you can get by with blowing your own horn before God. Everything that we have—right thinking and right living, a clean slate and a fresh start—comes from God by way of Jesus Christ. That's why we have the saying, "If you're going to blow a horn, blow a trumpet for God."

The simple reality is that God has big plans for you. God has been adding into your life every day to prepare you for the call. Your testimony is your spiritual resume'. Some folks found themselves in deep waters during their life. It may have been drugs, fornication, stealing. So let's say you did come from a drug-infused background. You now have the better opportunity to speak to an addict. With God we have everything we need inside of us.

TRUTH #3: MOSES HAD A MOMENT THAT CAPPED HIS POTENTIAL

When Moses struck the rock twice with the stick it was out of line. But did God say to strike the rock? No, God said to speak to the rock. At first, you think, it's just a minor trivial thing – speak, strike. What's the big difference? God is focusing on the obedience. Moses & Aaron ask the Lord what should be done, God told them (speak

to the rock) but Moses got tripped up (possibly in anger) and struck the rock. Moses was upset at the time but God was not focused on the feelings of Moses. God saw the problem was unbelief.

Folks, unbelief is often the root of most of our problems. It is this unbelief that causes us to miss the interception of what God is wanting to throw our way. In Deuteronomy, chapter 1 the nation of Israel is told to take on the Amorites and capture the hill country.

DEUTERONOMY 1:21 (NIV)

Go up and take possession of it as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, told you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

DEUTERONOMY 1:22 (NIV)

Then all of you came to me and said, "Let us send men ahead to spy out the land for us and bring back a report about the route we are to take and the towns we will come to."

DEUTERONOMY 1:32-33 (NIV)

In spite of this, you did not trust in the Lord your God, who went ahead of you on your journey, in fire by night and in a cloud by day...

Know that God has your life plan. God has equipped you right now. How you choose to deal with a moment that wants to cap your potential is up to you.

Jesus did not just save you so you can go to heaven. He saved you so you could live an abundant Christian life. You should be looking in the mirror and see that you are conformed to the image of God's son, a reflection of Christ.

You may have come home once and shared with your family some big plans, but I've got a news flash for you. God has bigger plans. Your big plans may include wealth or property. And there is nothing wrong with that. Just remember your relationship with the king is about a higher purpose, a higher target.

God has equipped you with every resource you need to get to the promised land. God's word is our map. God's spirit is our motor. You have his presence here, you have this church body to encourage you.

What stops you dead in your tracks from reaching your calling? Is it unbelief? Pray that your faith would increase. Is it an addiction? Ask that your chains be broken. Is it time? Come and ask God to take away your busyness.

