

TAKE POSSESSION OF THE LAND!
A study in Deuteronomy
AMEN Bible Study 2010-2011

MEN, MEET YOUR GOD: A GOD WHO DISCIPLINES
Deuteronomy 1:19-46
September 23, 2010

1:19-21 I. God calls us to take possession of our possessions.

“Then we set out from Horeb and went through all that great and terrifying wilderness that you saw, on the way to the hill country of the Amorites, as the Lord our God commanded us. And we came to Kadesh-barnea..”

cf. Col 3:1-4; II Cor. 6:10; Phil. 4:11-13, 19; II Peter 1:3, 4

:20 A. The land is God’s to give.

“And I said to you, ‘You have come to the hill country of the Amorites, which the Lord our God is giving us.’”

:21 B. The land is ours to take.

1. God has commanded it.

“Go up, take possession, as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has told you.”

• 23 times in Deuteronomy

2. God has forbidden fear and dismay.

“Do not fear or be dismayed.”

cf. Joshua 1:9; Matt. 10:28

:22-33 II. We sometimes fail to obey.

:22 A. We want to check it out first.

“Then all of you came near me and said, ‘Let us send men before us, that they may explore the land for us and bring us word again of the way by which we must go up and the cities into which we shall come.’”

cf. Exodus 3:11-4:17; Judges 6:36, 37, 39

:23-25 B. God accommodates our weaknesses.

“The thing seemed good to me...”

cf. Exodus 3, 4; Judges 6:38, 40

:26-28 C. We dig in deeper.

“Yet you would not go up, but rebelled...”

1. Our doubt turns into distrust.

“And you...said, ‘Because the Lord hated us...’”

cf. Matt. 25:24

2. Our distrust turns into fear.

“Our brothers have made our hearts melt...”

cf. Matt. 25:25

:29-31 D. God confronts us.

“Then I said to you...”

1. God is greater than our adversaries.

“Do not be in dread or afraid of them.”

cf. I John 4:4

2. God goes before us.

“The Lord your God who goes before you...”

3. God fights for us.

"...will himself fight for you..."

cf. Exodus 14:13, 14; I Sam. 17:36-37, 45-47; II Chron. 20:15; Nehemiah 4:20

4. Check the record.

"...just as he did for you in Egypt...and in the wilderness."

:32-33

E. We cease to believe.

"Yet in spite of this word, you did not believe the Lord your God..."

cf. Luke 16:32; John 5:46-47; 10:38; 14:11

:34-40 III. God disciplines us for our good.

A. His discipline issues from His character.

:34

1. Wrath

"And the Lord heard your words and was angered."

cf. Psalm 95:10, 11

:35

2. Sovereignty

"...and he swore, 'Not one of these men from this evil generation shall see the good land...'"

cf. Malachi 1:6, 11, 14

:36-38

3. Grace

"...except Caleb...Joshua...Encourage him, for he shall cause Israel to inherit it."

cf. Deut. 8:5; Isaiah 10:20-26

:39

B. His discipline saves His people.

"And as for your little ones...they shall go in there."

cf. Psalm 119:67, 75; I Cor. 11:32

:40

C. His discipline develops our character.

"But as for you, turn, and journey into the wilderness..."

cf. Hebrews 12:3-11; Proverbs 3:11, 12; Psalm 94:12

:41-46 IV. We sometimes fail to submit to His discipline.

:41

A. We offer insincere repentance.

1. Sociopathic

"...We have sinned against the Lord."

cf. I Sam. 15:30

2. Presumptuous

"We ourselves will go up and fight, just as the Lord our God commanded us..."

cf. Acts 19:13-16

:42

B. God is not fooled.

"Do not go up to fight, for I am not in your midst..."

cf. Galatians 6:7

:43-46

C. We learn the hard way.

"...the Amorites...chased you as bees do and beat you down... And you returned and wept before the Lord, but the Lord did not listen.... So you remained at Kadesh many days."

cf. Exodus 16:20, 27