

Bethany Bible Study & Discussion



Deuteronomy Part I (chapter 1)

11.30.2022

Chapters 1-3

Israel's failed Journey to Promised Land

Introduction to Deuteronomy

First generation denied entry to promised Land
Moses also tragically denied entry to promised land

Encounter with Edomites, Moabites, and Ammonites

Two battles & Two victories before crossing river Jordan

Joshua emerges as the new leader of Israel

Introduction

Last book of Moses

1400 BC; Captures last 40 days of Moses (Moses @ 120-years old)

Cross-reference: Exodus and Numbers

Deuteronomy in the NT (much quoted, including by Jesus when he was tempted by Satan in the wilderness, 8:13, 6:13, 6:16)

Meaning: Deuteronomy ~ “Second Law”

- Repetition of Laws to the “second generation” (first generation of adults destroyed in the wilderness)

Theme: Secret of Success

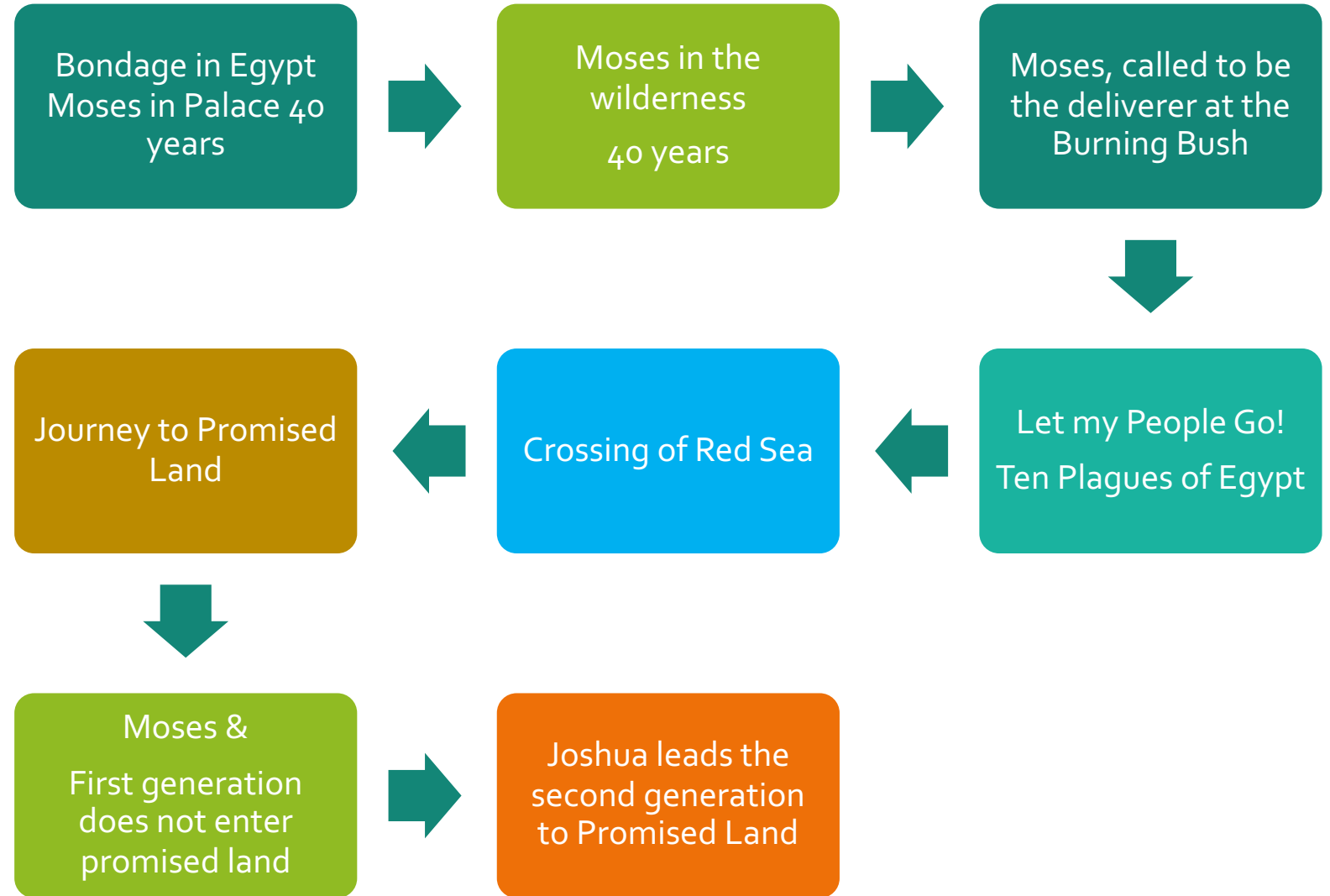
Key verses

4: 1-2 Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers giveth you. ² Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.

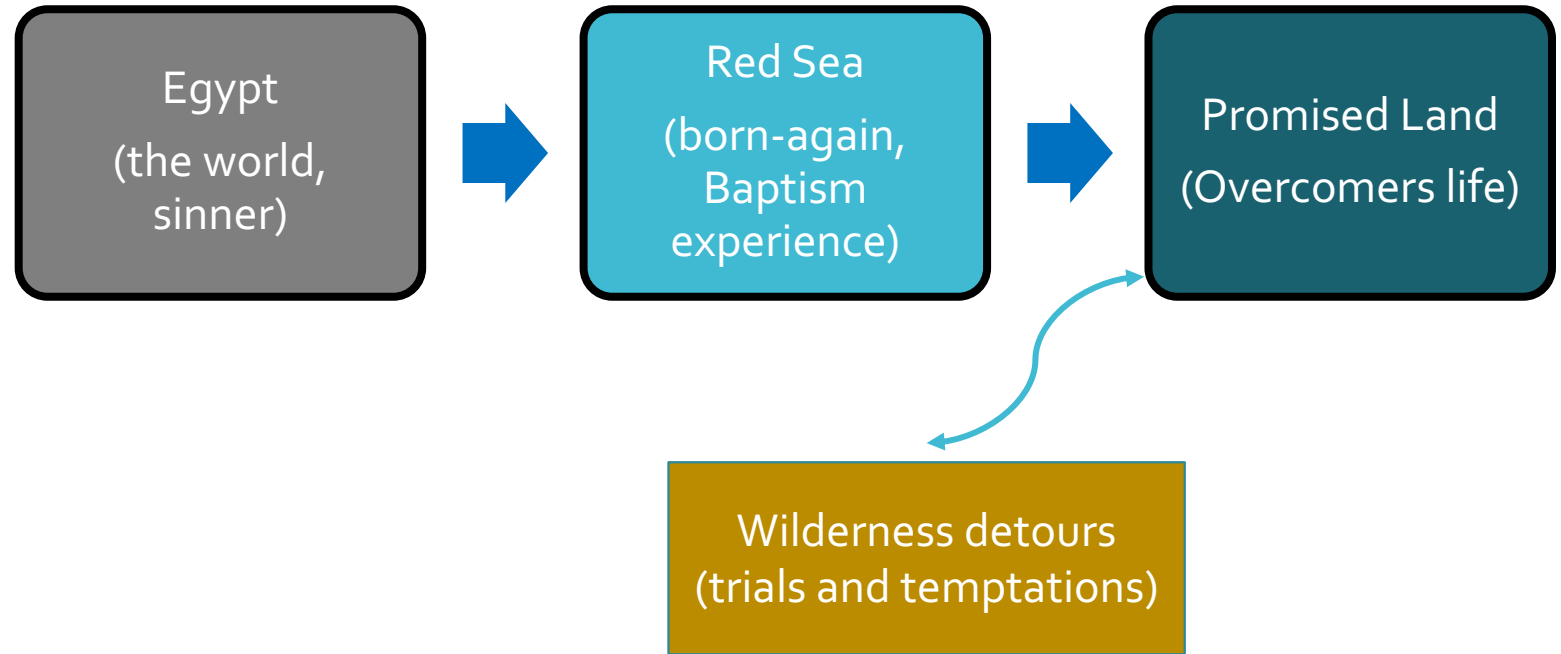
5:1-2 And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them.

6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: ⁵ And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

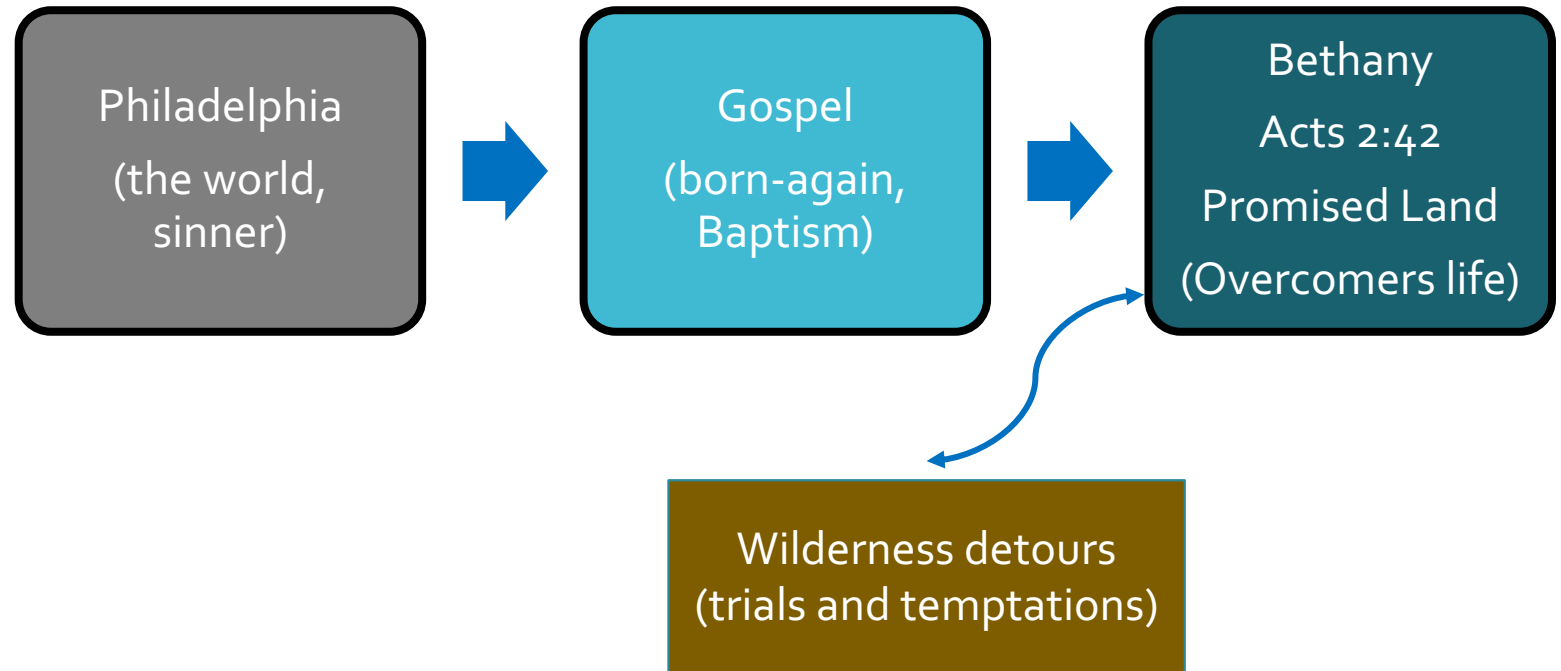
Quick history: From Egyptian Bondage to Promised Land



Spiritual symbolism



Our Gospel Calling



Great Detour

1 These be the words which Moses spake unto all Israel on this side Jordan in the wilderness, in the plain over against the Red sea, between Paran, and Tophel, and Laban, and Hazeroth, and Dizahab. **2** (There are eleven days' journey from Horeb by the way of mount Seir unto Kadeshbarnea.)

150 miles/11-days Journey:

Horeb (where law was given) to Kadesh Barnea

Onward trip to the border

Crossing of Red Sea into the wilderness

Law Given

Arrival at the to the border of promised land

Spies sent

Return trip

Wandered in wilderness, lasted nearly 40 years

Moses Exhortations

³ And it came to pass in the fortieth year, in the eleventh month, on the first day of the month, that Moses spake unto the children of Israel, according unto all that the Lord had given him in commandment unto them; ⁴ After he had slain Sihon the king of the Amorites, which dwelt in Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, which dwelt at Astaroth in Edrei:

Moses speaks to the next generation

First generation died (Children, 20 & under saved)

To succeed in promised land required receiving sound instructions

Moses speaks: Review

1:5 – 3:28

⁵On this side Jordan, in the land of Moab, began Moses to declare this law, saying, ⁶The Lord our God **spake unto us** in Horeb, saying, Ye have dwelt long enough in this mount:⁷Turn you, and take your journey, and go to the mount of the Amorites, and unto all the places nigh thereunto, in the plain, in the hills, and in the vale, and in the south, and by the sea side, to the land of the Canaanites, and unto Lebanon, unto the great river, the river Euphrates.

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Period: Mount Sinai (or Horeb) to the Plains of Moab

Departure from Mount Sinai (Numbers 10)

It was time to move on after spending a year in Mount Sinai
(Christians must also be progressing in spiritual journey)

- And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. ²I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able (I Corinthians 3:1-2, Paul's concern)

Command to Possess the Promise (8)

Behold, I have set the land before you: **go in and possess the land** which the Lord swore unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them.

Clear command to take next step

Moses sets up a governance system (9-18)

How can I myself alone bear
your cumbrance, and your
burden, and your strife? (12)

Chief of tribes made rulers/judges (70 appointed, Numbers 11:16)

- Captains over thousands/hundreds/fifties/tens
- Officers among tribes

Job description

- Helpers to Moses to settle dispute among brethren
 - Hear everyone: small and great
 - Have no bias
 - Be not afraid of man for judgement is of God
 - If tough case, send to Moses
-
- When ministry work grows, it must be prayerfully delegated

A hand holding a compass over a map. The background is a blurred map with a compass rose. The hand is holding a silver compass with a white face and black markings. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, outlined font.

Critical Point in Journey (19)

Reach Kadesh- barnea & Command to Possess repeated (19-21)

¹⁹ And when we departed from Horeb, we went through all that great and terrible wilderness, which ye saw by the way of the mountain of the Amorites, as the Lord our God commanded us; and we came to Kadeshbarnea. ²⁰ And I said unto you, Ye are come unto the mountain of the Amorites, which the Lord our God doth give unto us. ²¹ Behold, the Lord thy God hath set the land before thee: **go up and possess it**, as the Lord God of thy fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged.

God said, Possess ... But Israelites hesitant to take the next step

Is that surprising?

How did they resolve the situation?

Was it a right leadership decision?

Plan proposed Moses approves

And the saying pleased me well:
and I took twelve men of you,
one of a tribe: (23)

Proposed Plan: Investigate the land before entering

Moses agrees (I feel a mistake, since God had already told to go!)

Bad decision of Moses lead to death of entire generation

God gives a plan to select 1 member from each tribe (Numbers 13:2)
and 12 spies are sent

Spy report

Negative: 10

Positive: 2

Good land: 12

It is a good land which
the Lord our God doth give
us (25)

Negative Report of 10 (Numbers 13:27-33)

²⁷ And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. ²⁸ Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there. ...and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature.³³ And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

Positive Report of 2 (Numbers 13:30)

³⁰ And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.

- How did these reports influence Israelites?

Wrong Reaction to Report

²⁶ Notwithstanding ye would not go up, but rebelled against the commandment of the Lord your God: ²⁷ And ye murmured in your tents, and said, Because the Lord hated us, he hath brought us forth out of the land of Egypt, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us.

²⁸ Whither shall we go up? our brethren have discouraged our heart, saying, The people is greater and taller than we; the cities are great and walled up to heaven; and moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakims there.

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Fear

Discouragement

Disbelief

Anger towards God's plan and purpose

Rebellion

Do we also make mistakes by relying on wrong counsel?

Moses
reinforces
Promise of
God,
but fails to
change their
minds
(29-33)

²⁹ Then I said unto you, Dread not, neither be afraid of them.

³⁰ The Lord your God which goeth before you, he shall fight for you, according to all that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes;

³¹ And in the wilderness, where thou hast seen how that the Lord thy God bare thee, as a man doth bear his son, in all the way that ye went, until ye came into this place.

³² Yet in this thing ye did not believe the Lord your God,

³³ Who went in the way before you, to search you out a place to pitch your tents in, in fire by night, to shew you by what way ye should go, and in a cloud by day.

Joshua and Caleb try to convince, but no effect

(Numbers 14:6-10)

- ⁶ And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes:
- ⁷ And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land.
- ⁸ If the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.
- ⁹ Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the Lord is with us: fear them not.
- ¹⁰ But all the congregation bade stone them with stones.

**How did God respond
to their rebellion?**

Tragedy of Disobedience

(34-35)

³⁴ And the Lord heard the voice of your words, and was wroth, and swore, saying,

³⁵ Surely there shall not one of these men of this evil generation see that good land, which I swore to give unto your fathers.

Shall not see that good land!

Exceptions:
Caleb
Joshua
Little ones

Moses (x 😞)

(36-39)

³⁶ Save **Caleb** the son of Jephunneh; he shall see it, and to him will I give the land that he hath trodden upon, and to his children, because he hath wholly followed the Lord.

³⁷ Also the Lord was angry with **me** for your sakes, saying, Thou also shalt not go in thither.

³⁸ But **Joshua** the son of Nun, which standeth before thee, he shall go in thither: encourage him: for he shall cause Israel to inherit it.

³⁹ Moreover your **little ones**, which ye said should be a prey ([Numbers 14:3](#)), and your children, which in that day had no knowledge between good and evil, they shall go in thither, and unto them will I give it, and they shall possess it.

Final Verdict:

**U-Turn, after
two years**

40 But as for you, turn you, and take your journey into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea.

How did people respond to this final verdict from God?

Did God change his mind? Why or why not?