## Bethany Bible Study & Discussion



Deuteronomy
Part-30
(chapter 28)

8.23.2023

## Chapter 28 Choices have Consequences

What is the <u>choice</u> given to Israelites? What is the choice given to us today? (1-2)

What are the <u>blessings</u> proclaimed? What is the condition for inheriting the blessings? What are the blessings promised to us today? (3-14)

What type of <u>curses</u> will follow disobedience? Are we subject to curses today? (15-68)

### The Choice (1-2)

#### The CHOICE

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

<sup>2</sup> And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God.



#### The CHOICE

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt <u>hearken</u> diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to <u>observe</u> and to do <u>all</u> his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

<sup>2</sup> And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God.

## You hear & obey You will be blessed (and set on high above all)

## Blessings follow obedience (3-14)

## Countless blessing for obedience

<sup>7</sup>The Lord shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways. <sup>8</sup>The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. <sup>9</sup>The Lord shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, and walk in his ways. <sup>10</sup>And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the Lord; and they shall be afraid of thee.

<sup>11</sup> And the Lord shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers to give thee. <sup>12</sup> The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.

<sup>13</sup> And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them: <sup>14</sup> And thou shalt not go aside from any of the words which I command thee this day, to the right hand, or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep. <sup>5</sup> Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store. <sup>6</sup> Blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

#### Blessings

(material blessings in the land)

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Blessed .... In city and in the field (3)
Blessed ... fruitfulness of womb, field, livestock (4-5)
Blessed ... coming in and going out (6)
Blessed ... in the battlefield (7)
Blessed ... in everything (8)
Blessed ... as a holy people (9)
Blessed ... as an exalted nation of the Lord (10)
Blessed ... in abundance fruit of body, ground, and cattle (11)
Blessed ... in treasures, timely rain, and works of hand (12)
Blessed ... to be a lender (12)
Blessed ... to be head (not tail), above (not down) (13)
Condition for blessing:
     Complete obedience and no idolatry (14)
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## Rules for receiving God's blessing have not changed

Luke 11:28 But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.

JOHN 9:31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

God expects <u>complete and</u> <u>immediate</u> <u>obedience.</u>

We often show <u>delayed obedience</u> and <u>partial obedience</u>... hence we miss out on God's full blessings!

## Blessings in New Testament (spiritual rather than material)

# Some of the Blessings in New Testament (spiritual rather than material)

<u>All</u> Spiritual blessings (in Christ) (Ephesians 1:3)

Heavenly inheritance (through Christ) (I Peter 1:4, Colossians 1:12)

Beatitudes ... Blessed are ... (Mathew 5)

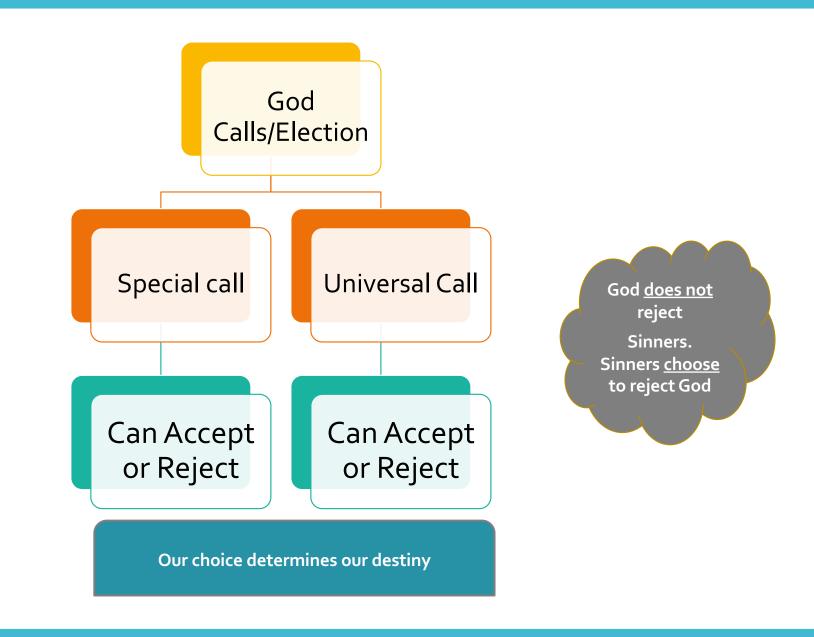
Blessed is the one whose sins are forgiven (Romans 4:7-9)

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you (Mathew 6:33)



Spiritual
Blessings (in
Christ)

(Ephesians 1)



## Curses (15-68)

## CURSES DUE TO DISOBEDIENCE

<sup>15</sup> But it shall come to pass, if <u>thou wilt not</u> hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these <u>curses</u> shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

#### CURSES IMPACT ALL AREAS

- Reversal (3-6, blessings, 16-19 curses)
- Barrenness (of womb, field, cattles) (16-19, 38-40)
- Children in slavery (32, 41)
- Destruction and loss of harvest (33, 42)
- Sickness (27-29)
- Defeat (25-26,48-52)
- Demotion, Lender (43-44)
- Eat own family due to famine & hunger (53-57)
- Plagues of Egypt (59-61)
- Decimated (62-63)
- Scattered (64)
- Restlessness, fear, and sorrow (65-66)
- Back to Egypt (68)
  - Historically, curses came true upon the nation, but remnant & repentant spared

#### Why curses?

<sup>45</sup> Moreover all these curses shall come upon thee, and shall pursue thee, and overtake thee, till thou be destroyed; <u>because thou hearkenedst not</u> unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which he commanded thee: <sup>46</sup> And they shall be upon thee for a sign and for a wonder, and upon thy seed for ever. <sup>47</sup> <u>Because thou servedst not</u> the Lord thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things;

Reveals God is a God of love and God of Justice

There is no partiality with God

Curses remind us of our fallen nature and need for God

In the new testament, chastisement designed to convict us and bring us back to God. God loves sinners and backsliden believers.

#### Why Curses?

#### **ISIAH 1:19** BLESSING FOLLOW OBEDIENE

If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

#### John 9:31 SINS BLOCK OUR PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS

Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

#### SIN HAS TO BE DEALT WITH TO RECEIVE GOD'S BLESSINGS

### IF we ignore God's warning

There will be no peace in our life

**ISAIAH 48:18** O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:

If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your well-being like the waves of the sea (NIV)

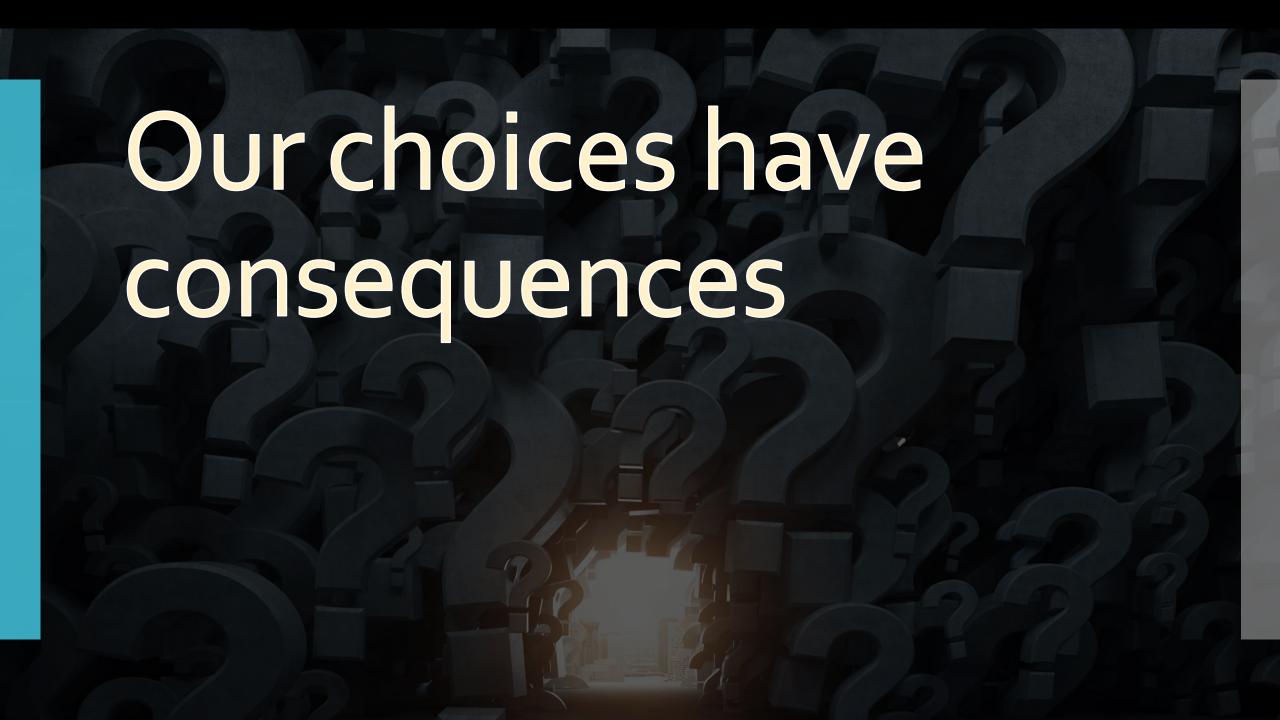
There is Hope

Ezekiel 18:21 But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

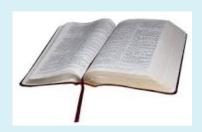
## Are you in the full enjoyment of God's blessings in your life?

If YES ... Praise the Lord!

If No ... Search your heart



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