

Welcome to: - Bible House of Grace.



God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Deuteronomy 28.

(2014)

The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises

But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

Teach it, don't demand it.

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man. As to such I neither claim special knowledge or perfect understanding.

If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.

Deuteronomy 28.

(A brief overview of the main topics).

INTRODUCTION: this is a continuation of the previous chapter, Israel is soon to cross over the River Jordan and enter into the Promised Land. The primary focus of all the following chapters is upon Moses re-telling to the new generation about to cross the River Jordan all the covenant laws the LORD originally gave to Israel at Mount Sinai so that the new generation would renew the covenant with the LORD before they enter the Promised Land. The final chapter finishes with the LORD burying Moses and Joshua being ready to lead Israel over the River Jordan and into the Promised Land (see also the introduction to chapter one).

NOTE: for information of people, places and the meaning of words see Map Locations and People of the Bible, and Bible Dictionary on Website Menu.

If Israel faithfully obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, to do all his commandments then all the following blessings would come upon Israel and overtake them. But if they failed to obeyed the voice of the LORD their God and went astray from all his commandments all the following curses would come upon Israel and overtake them.

Blessings regarding childbearing: the LORD would abundantly bless Israel's women in childbearing and their nation would multiply.

Blessings regarding the city and the field: the LORD would bless the fruit of their ground, their cattle, their basket of food and their kneading bowl and the increase of their herds and flock, their barns and in all that they undertook to do. He would open to Israel His good treasury to give rain to their land in its season and bless all the work of their hands. He would make Israel abound abundantly in prosperity and in all their livestock and prosper everything that grows from the ground of their land.

Blessings regarding Israel's enemies: if Israel's enemies came out against them one way they would flee before Israel seven ways, and, whenever their enemies rose against them the LORD would cause them to be defeated.

Blessings regarding nations: the LORD would establish Israel as a people holy to Himself, all the peoples of the earth would see that Israel was called by the name of the LORD. They would be blessed and all the nations would be afraid of them. They would lend too many nations and not borrow, because the LORD would make Israel the head and not the tail and they would only go up and not down and Israel would be set high above all the nations of the earth.

Curses regarding Israel's Land: the LORD would bring poverty to Israel's land, in their cities, their fields, their basket of food and their kneading bowl, in the fruit of their womb and the fruit of the ground and the increase of their herds and flock, pestilence (insects) would stick to them until it has consumed them off their Land. The LORD would strike them with fiery heat, drought, blight and mildew until they perish, the heavens over their head would be bronze and the earth under them would be iron (meaning it would not rain).

The LORD would make the rain of their land powder; dust would come down on them until they are destroyed, they would carry much seed into the field, but gather little because the locust would consume it.

They would plant vineyards, but would not drink of the wine or gather the grapes, because the worm would eat them and even though they would have olive trees throughout their territory they would not be able to anoint themselves with the oil because the olives would drop off. The cricket would eat all their trees and the fruit of their ground. In hunger, thirst and nakedness Israel would lack everything the LORD would destroy them.

Curses regarding Israel's enemies: the LORD would cause Israel to be defeated before their enemies, Israel would go out one way and flee seven ways before their enemies, their dead bodies would be food for all birds and the beasts of the earth and there would be no one to frighten them away. They would serve their enemies whom the LORD would send against them and be oppressed and robbed continually and there would be no one to help.

They would betroth a wife but another man would ravish her, build a house but they would not dwell in it, plant a vineyard, but would not enjoy its fruit. Their ox would be slaughtered before their eyes and they would not eat any of it. Their donkey would be seized before their face and not be restored to them and their sheep would be given to their enemies and there would be no one to help them.

Their sons and daughters would be given to another people, while Israel was faint with longing for them, but they would be helpless. A nation that Israel had not known would eat up the fruit of their ground and all their labours, they would be oppressed and crushed continually so that they are driven mad by the sights that their eyes see.

The LORD would bring Israel and their king into captivity to a nation that Israel had not known they would serve gods of wood and stone and become a horror, a proverb and a byword among all the peoples where the LORD would lead them away. They would father sons and daughters, but they would not be theirs because they would go into captivity.

Curses regarding the sojourner living amongst Israel: the sojourner who is among them would rise higher and higher above Israel, while Israel became lower and lower, so much so that the sojourner would lend to Israel and Israel would not be able to lend to them, the sojourner would become the head and Israel would become the tail.

Curses regarding nations: a nation from far away and that speak a language Israel did not understand and who would not respect the old or show mercy to the young would eat the offspring of Israel's cattle and the fruit of their ground, until they are destroyed, they would not leave Israel any grain, wine, oil or the increase of their herds and flock, until they have caused Israel to perish. The nations armies would surround Israel in all their towns throughout all their land, and besiege Israel until their fortified walls, in which they trusted came down. Israel would eat the fruit of their womb, the flesh of their sons and daughters in the siege with which their enemies would distress them.

The most tender and refined man among Israel would begrudge food to his brother, the wife he embraces and his children and would not give any of his family any flesh of his children who he is eating because he has nothing left. The most delicate and tender woman among Israel would begrudge the husband she embraces, the afterbirth of her son and her daughter she will eat her children secretly and deny them to her family because of the distress of their enemy.

Curses regarding sickness: the LORD would strike them with wasting disease, with fever and inflammation, boils, tumours, scabs madness, blindness and confusion of mind and an itch of Egypt of which they cannot be healed, until they perish. On their offspring the LORD would bring extraordinary afflictions and sicknesses that are severe grievous and lasting, all the diseases of Egypt, of which they were afraid would cling to them and every sickness and affliction that is not recorded in the book of the law until they are destroyed.

Curses regarding Israel being scattered: the LORD would scatter Israel from one end of the earth to the other they would serve other gods of wood and stone and find no respite or resting-place among the nations that the LORD scatters them into.

Their heart will tremble, their eyes will fail and their soul will languish, their life will hang in doubt before them, night and day they will be in dread and have no assurance of their life. In the morning they will wish it was evening and in the evening they will wish it was morning because of the dread that their heart will feel and the sights they will see.

The LORD would bring Israel back in ships to Egypt, a journey that Moses promised they would never make again and in Egypt they would offer themselves for sale as male and female slaves to their enemies, but there would be no buyer.

Curses regarding Israel confusion and frustration: when they came in and when they went out, all Israel undertook to do would fail because the LORD would send on them confusion and frustration, they will grope at noonday as the blind grope in darkness, and they will not prosper in their ways, but become a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth (because of their suffering, destruction and poverty).

Curses regarding Israel's destruction: the LORD would take delight in bringing ruin upon Israel and destroying them instead of taking delight in doing good to Israel and multiplying them. They would be plucked off their land and be left few in number instead of being as numerous as the stars of heaven.

Curses regarding Israel's rebellion: if Israel does all the words of the law that are written in this book so that they would fear the glorious and awesome name, the LORD their God and obey and serve Him with joyfulness and gladness of heart because of the abundance of all things all the blessing written in this book would come upon them and their offspring forever. But if Israel turns to the right hand or to the left from any of the words that the LORD through Moses has commanded, to go after other gods and serve them and forsakes the LORD, all of these curses written in the book would be a sign and wonder against Israel and to their offspring forever because of their evil deeds.

FOOTNOTE: all of these curses did come upon Israel. They not only turned to idolatry, astrology, and occultism and had altars for worshiping the host of heaven (the sun, moon, stars and planets) in the court of the God's temple, but also worshipped at the altars of Baal and were even sacrificing their sons on the altars of, Molech in the Hinnom Valley. Added to these abominations they were shedding innocent blood, cheating the innocent out of justice, not helping the less fortunate and oppressing the poor for their own gain all of these gross wickedness's eventually permeated the land of Judah and Israel.

Because of this gross wickedness God used Babylon as His servant to bring the city of Jerusalem to ruin, to destroy the temple and to lay the farmlands of Judah and Israel waste. Babylon invaded Jerusalem and took its inhabitants (the two tribes of Judah) into captivity later Babylon conquered Assyria who had previously taken Israel (the ten tribes in the land of Samaria) captive. Israel and Judah were under Babylonian rule for seventy years. They went into captivity to Babylon as two rebellious nations who had turned from God to idols and who were even sacrificing their own children to pagan gods.

While in captivity God moulded them like a master potter moulds a beautiful clay jar, Israel and Judah went into Babylon as two unfaithful nations that had turned away from the LORD to idols and other gods. Seventy years later, Cyrus (King of Persia) who the LORD called His Shepherd (Isaiah 44:28) gave permission to Israel to return to Jerusalem. Under Ezra and Nehemiah God brought Israel and Judah back to their beloved city Jerusalem as one united nation faithful to only one God, the LORD their God, the God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob (Israel never turned to idols or pagan gods again)

Multitudes of Jewish families who had been scattered throughout the nations returned to Jerusalem and the land of Israel. When the temple of God was completed their faith was once again established and a time of prosperity and peace followed. Sadly Israel as a nation never recognised their Messiah the Christ when he came, but even this was in the LORD'S sovereign will. The prophet Zechariah tells us when the Lord returns in glory: -

- God will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn (Zech. 12:10-14).