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## **God's Covenant with Israel.**

(2013)

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## God's Covenant with Israel.

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### Topics.

- The Covenant God made with Israel at Mount Sinai.
  - Israel agrees to enter into a covenant with the LORD.
  - Moses writes the covenant laws in a book.
  - The covenant is confirmed by blood.
  - The LORD calls Moses to the top of Mount Sinai.
  - Moses takes the second set of stone tablets up Mount Sinai.
  - Moses descends from the LORD on Mount Sinai with his face shining.
  - Moses re-tells the words of the covenant made at Mount Sinai.
  - Choosing, life or death.
  - The LORD knows Israel will forsake him and turn to other gods.
  - Moses death and his greatness.
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Before looking at the Covenant God made with Israel at Mount Sinai we will firstly look at the chronological order of the different journeys that Moses made up and down Mount Sinai to talk with the LORD. The following is a brief overview of these journeys: -

**On Moses first trip up the mountain:** he goes some way up Mount Sinai to the LORD. The LORD tells him if Israel keeps His Covenant they will be His treasured possession amongst all the nations of the earth and be to the LORD a kingdom of priests and a holy nation (Israel has not entered the Covenant yet nor is the covenant written). The LORD then told Moses to speak these words Israel,

**On Moses first trip down the mountain:** he goes down to Israel and tells them if they keep the LORD'S Covenant they will be His treasured possession amongst the nations of the earth and be to the LORD a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. All the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do" (the Covenant has not yet been written Moses simply finding out if all the people of Israel are prepared to enter into a Covenant with the LORD).

It's a bit like lawyers drawing up a basic draft of a Covenant contract and seeing if the two parties would agree to it in principal and if they say "Yes" he then goes and draws up a very detailed and final copy of the Covenant contract.

**On Moses second trip up the mountain:** he goes back onto the mountain and tells the LORD that the people have agreed to enter into a Covenant with the LORD their God. The LORD tells Moses that He is going to come to Moses in a thick cloud so that all the people of Israel can hear the LORD speak and believe Moses.

The LORD tells Moses to go down from the mountain and consecrated the people so that they are ready for the LORD when He descends on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.

**On Moses second trip down the mountain:** he goes down, consecrates the people and brought them out of the camp to meet God at the foot of Mount Sinai and the LORD came down on Mount Sinai to the top of the mountain in fire and the whole mountain was wrapped in smoke and greatly trembled.

**On Moses third trip up the mountain:** the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up. The LORD told Moses to go back down the mountain and warn the people not to attempt to come up the mountain and that when he does return to the top of the mountain he could bring Aaron and the priests with him, but they were not to break through the cloud to come up to the LORD

**On Moses third trip down the mountain:** he goes down the mountain and tells the people of Israel all these things.

Since Moses travelled up and down the mountain three times it is most likely he only went some way up the first two times and then to the very top the last time as the LORD called him to do. It is very likely that Moses while in the wilderness had some beautiful spot on the mountain side where he could be alone while praying with the LORD.

- Exodus 19 Israel has left Egypt and are camped in the wilderness at the foot of Mount Sinai while Moses went up to God.
- Exodus 20 God gives the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai.
- Exodus 21 God tells Moses these are rules that he is to set before Israel (v1)
- Exodus 22 God gives Moses laws, statutes and commands.
- Exodus 23 God gives Moses laws, statutes and commands.
- Exodus 24 now in this chapter

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**Exodus twenty-four:** the Lord has descended on Mount Sinai and Israel has agreed to enter into a covenant but it has not yet been confirmed.

Exodus 24:1-2 ----- <sup>1</sup>Then LORD said to Moses, “Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu and seventy of the elders of Israel, and you shall worship at a distance. <sup>2</sup>“Moses alone, however, shall come near to the LORD, but they shall not come near, nor shall the people come up with him.”

**Moses fourth trip up the mountain:** the LORD calls Moses and the priests back up the Mountain, but once again only Moses could enter the cloud and go to the top of Mount Sinai.

**Israel agrees to enter into a Covenant with the LORD.**

Exodus 24:3 ----- <sup>3</sup>Then Moses came and *recounted* to the people all the words of the LORD and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice, and said, “All the words which the LORD has spoken we will do!”

**Moses fourth trip down the mountain:** Moses re-tells all the words of the LORD and of the Covenant to the people of Israel and Israel agree to the terms of the Covenant.

**Moses writes the Covenant Laws in a Book.**

Exodus 24:4-5 ----- <sup>4</sup>Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. Then he arose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain with twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>5</sup>And he sent young men of the sons of Israel, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as peace offerings to the LORD.

**The Covenant is confirmed by Blood.**

Exodus 24:6-8 ----- <sup>6</sup>Moses took half of the blood and put *it* in basins, and the *other* half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. <sup>7</sup>Then he took *the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the*

people; and they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!"  
<sup>8</sup>So Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

### **The LORD appears to Moses and the Priests on Mount Sinai.**

Exodus 24:9-11 ----- <sup>9</sup>Then Moses went up with Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, <sup>10</sup>and they saw the God of Israel; and under His feet there *appeared to be a pavement of sapphire, as clear as the sky itself.* <sup>11</sup>Yet He did not stretch out His hand against the nobles of the sons of Israel; and they beheld God, (at a distance) and they ate and drank.

**Moses fifth trip up the mountain:** Moses with the priests return to some spot on Mount Sinai where the LORD appeared (perhaps in some form of vision). The pavement of sapphire, as clear as the sky itself under the LORD'S feet is most likely symbolic of Israel being under the glory of God and the peace and glory between Israel and the LORD at this glorious time.

### **The LORD calls Moses to the TOP of Mount Sinai.**

Exodus 24:12-18 ----- <sup>12</sup>Now the LORD said to Moses, "Come up to Me on the mountain (Sinai) and remain there, and I will give you the stone tablets with the law and the commandment which I have written for their instruction." <sup>13</sup>So Moses arose with Joshua his servant, and Moses went up to the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>But to the elders he said, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a legal matter, let him approach them." <sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up to the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>And the glory of the LORD rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses from the midst of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>And to the eyes of the sons of Israel the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on the mountain top. <sup>18</sup>And Moses entered the midst of the cloud as he went up to the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

**Moses returns to the top of Mount Sinai for the second time:** the glory of the LORD rested on the mountain and the cloud covered it for six-days and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from the midst of the cloud. Moses entered the cloud and was with the LORD on the mountain forty-days and forty-nights and the LORD gives Moses the Stone Tablets with the law and the commandments which He had written for Israel's instruction.

The glory of the LORD appeared to the people of Israel  
like a consuming fire on the mountain top.

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### **Exodus thirty-four.**

Exodus 34:1-2 ----- <sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Moses, "Cut out for yourself two stone tablets like the former ones, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the former tablets which you shattered. <sup>2</sup>"So be ready by morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to Me on the top of the mountain.

When Moses descended from Mount Sinai the first time and saw Israel worshipping the golden calf he broke the first set of Stone Tablets so the LORD told him to cut two more Stone Tablets like the former ones, and He would write on the new Tablets the words that were on the former Tablets which Moses had shattered. The LORD then invites Moses to the top of Mount Sinai. Moses goes up the mountain with the new Stone Tablets. Moses called upon the name of the LORD and the LORD descended in the cloud and passed by in front of him.

### **Moses takes the Second set of Stone Tablets up Mount Sinai.**

Exodus 34:3-7 ----- <sup>3</sup>No man is to come up with you, nor let any man be seen anywhere on the mountain; even the flocks and the herds may not graze in front of that mountain." <sup>4</sup>So he cut out two stone tablets like the former ones, and Moses rose up early in the morning and went up to Mount

Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and he took two stone tablets in his hand. <sup>5</sup>And the LORD descended in the cloud and stood there with him as he called upon the name of the LORD. <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; <sup>7</sup>who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave *the guilty* unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations.”

#### **The LORD God:-**

- Is compassionate and gracious.
- Is slow to anger, and abounding in loving kindness and truth.
- Shows loving kindness to thousands and forgives iniquity and sin.
- Does not let the guilty go unpunished.

#### **Moses humbles Himself before the LORD.**

Exodus 34:8-10 ----- <sup>8</sup>And Moses made haste to bow low toward the earth and worship. <sup>9</sup>And he said, “If now I have found favor in Thy sight, O Lord, I pray, let the Lord go along in our midst, even though the people are so obstinate; and do Thou pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us as Thine own possession.” <sup>10</sup> Then God said, “Behold, I am going to make a covenant. Before all your people I will perform miracles which have not been produced in all the earth, nor among any of the nations; and all the people among whom you live will see the working of the LORD, for it is a fearful thing that I am going to perform with you.

Moses being totally aware that the people of Israel were a rebellious and obstinate people immediately kneels and prays the LORD would pardon Israel’s iniquity and their sin and take them for His own possession.”

God tells Moses He is going to make a Covenant with all the people of Israel and will perform miracles which have not been produced in all the earth and all Israel will see the working of the LORD.

#### **Moses writes the Words of the Covenant in a Book.**

Exodus 34:27-28 ----- <sup>27</sup>Then LORD said to Moses, “Write down these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.” <sup>28</sup>So he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he (Moses) did not eat bread or drink water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments.

#### **Moses descends from the LORD on Mount Sinai with his Face Shining.**

Exodus 34:29-35 ----- <sup>29</sup>And it came about when Moses was coming down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the testimony *were* in Moses’ hand as he was coming down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because of his speaking with Him. <sup>30</sup>So when Aaron and all the sons of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup>Then Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the rulers in the congregation returned to him; and Moses spoke to them. <sup>32</sup>And afterward all the sons of Israel came near, and he commanded them *to do* everything that the LORD had spoken to him on Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup>When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. <sup>34</sup>But whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with Him, he would take off the veil until he came out; and whenever he came out and spoke to the sons of Israel what he had been commanded, <sup>35</sup> the sons of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses’ face shone. So Moses would replace the veil over his face until he went in to speak with Him.

**This is the second time Moses has returned from the top of Mount Sinai:** (the first time he broke the Stone Tablets). As Moses carried the two Tablets of Stone down the mountain he was unaware that the skin of his face shone because he had been speaking with the LORD.

All Israel saw his face shining and were afraid to go near him, but after they saw Moses speaking to Aaron and the rulers they came near to him and Moses told all Israel to do everything the LORD had spoken to him on Mount Sinai. Whenever Moses spoke with the LORD he would remove the veil from his face, but whenever he spoke to the people after talking with the LORD he would cover his face with the veil.

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#### **Deuteronomy four: Moses receives the Tablets of Stone.**

Deut. 4:13 ----- <sup>13</sup>So He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, that is, the Ten Commandments; and He wrote them on two tablets of stone.

God declared to Israel the Ten Commandments and all the words of the Covenant at Mount Sinai (also called Horeb) and writes the Ten Commandments on two Tablets of Stone.

#### **Moses re-tells the Words of the Covenant made at Mount Sinai.**

Deut 29:1 ----- <sup>1</sup>These are the words of the covenant which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the sons of Israel in the land of Moab, besides the covenant which He had made with them at Horeb.

This verse is misleading in that it implies there were two different Covenants (i.e, one given at Mount Sinai and one given in the land of Moab), but this is not a new Covenant but a retelling of the Covenant given to Moses at Mount Sinai. Israel is in the land of Moab about to cross the River Jordan and enter the Promised Land.

The adults of the wilderness generation have died (except for Joshua and Caleb) so it is their offspring who were only children when Moses received the Covenant at Mount Sinai and those who were born in the wilderness who are about to cross the Jordan River so Moses re-tells the Covenant with the new generation.

#### **The Covenant was made Between Israel and the LORD.**

Deut 29:2-15 ----- <sup>2</sup>And Moses summoned all Israel and said to them, <sup>3</sup>“You have seen all that the LORD did before your eyes in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh. --- NOW GO TO VERSE --- <sup>10</sup>“You stand today, all of you, before the LORD your God --- NOW GO TO VERSE --- <sup>12</sup>that you may enter into the covenant and into His oath which the LORD your God is making with you today, <sup>13</sup> in order that He may establish you today as His people and that He may be your God, just as He spoke to you and as He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. <sup>14</sup>“Now I am making this covenant and this oath, <sup>15</sup>with those who stand here today and with those who are not with us here today.

Moses summoned all Israel and said You have seen all that the LORD did before your eyes in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh and now they stand before the LORD their God that they may enter into the Covenant and into God’s oath that He is making with them that very day so that He would be able to establish them to be His people as He swore to their fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

#### **Israel Become a People for the LORD.**

Deut. 27:1-10 ----- <sup>1</sup>Then Moses and the elders of Israel charged the people saying, “Keep all the commandments which I command you today --- NOW GO TO VERSE --- <sup>8</sup>“And you shall write on the stones all the words of this law very distinctly.” <sup>9</sup>Then Moses and the Levitical priests spoke to all Israel, saying, “Be silent and listen, O Israel! This day you have become a people for the LORD your God. <sup>10</sup>“You shall therefore obey the LORD your God, and do His commandments and His statutes which I (Moses) command you today.”

Moses and the elders of Israel told all the people of Israel to “Keep all the commandments that the LORD had command them that day. All the words of the Law were very distinctly written in a book. The book was called the Book of the Law and the Book of the Covenant.

That very day all Israel became a people for the LORD their God and were therefore to obey all His commandments and His statutes.

**SUMMARY:** the Covenant made on Mount Sinai.

Under international law and universal law a Covenant (i.e., a contract) is not legal unless both parties agree to it. Added to this God will never force or impose His will, His standards, His laws or His rules onto anyone.

This is why the LORD spent forty-days and forty-nights giving Moses all the laws the statutes, blessings and the curses of the Covenant and why Moses wrote them in a book in very detailed instruction and then read all the words of the Book of the Covenant to the entire nation of Israel and then invited them to enter into the Covenant with the LORD.

All Israel with one voice accepted the LORD'S invitation saying,  
"All that the LORD has said we will obey and do."

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### **Conditions of the Covenant.**

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#### **The Covenant required that Israel would: -**

- Love the LORD their God with all their heart, all their mind all their strength and that God would be pre-eminent in their heart (Deut 6:4-5).
- Walk in the fear the LORD and walk in all His ways (Deut. 10:12-13).
- Serve the LORD with all their heart and soul (Deut. 10:12-13).
- Keep all the words of the LORD'S covenant (Deut. 10:12-13).
- Impress the words of the covenant on their heart and their mind (Deut. 11:18-21).
- Bind the words of the covenant on their hand and the frontals on their forehead to be a sign of remembrance (Deut. 11:18-21).
- Keep the covenant all the days of their life (Deut 6:1-3).
- Do what is good and right before the LORD (Deut. 12:28).
- Listen to the LORD'S voice (though the prophets) and cling to Him (Deut. 13:4).
- Always remember the LORD forever in all they do (Deut. 8:18-19).
- Learn and observe the words of the covenant and carefully do them (Deut. 5:1-2).
- Teach all the words of the covenant diligently to their children (Deut. 6:4-8).

#### **If Israel kept the Covenant God would: -**

- Greatly multiply Israel in the land and all their days would be prolonged (Deut. 6:1-3).
- Life would go well with them and their children after them forever (Deut. 12:28).
- Give them power to make wealth and prosper (Deut. 8:18-19).
- Confirm all the blessings of His covenant to them (Deut. 8:18-19).
- Count them as righteous (Deut. 6:25).
- Dispose of all nations and drive out all their enemies (Deut. 11:22-25).
- Go before them in loving kindness (Deut. 7:12).

- Make every place on which the sole of their foot treads to be theirs (Deut. 11:22-25).
- Not allow anyone to stand against them (Deut. 11:22-25).
- Cause all their enemies to fear them (Deut. 11:22-25).
- Set them high above all the nations of the earth (Deut. 28:1).
- Establish them as a holy people to Himself (Deut. 28:9).
- Make them the head and not the tail (Deut. 28:13).

#### **If Israel forsook the Covenant and turn to other gods: -**

- All the curses of the Covenant would come upon them. (Deut. 11:26-27) (Deut. 28:15).
- They would perish from of the land (Deut. 8:18-19).

#### **Choosing Life and Choosing Death.**

Moses said to Israel: -

- I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and prosperity and death and adversity, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants” (Deut. 30:15) (Deut. 30:19).

Moses told Israel, “I am setting before you today a blessing if you keep all the words of the Covenant and the commandments of the LORD and a curse if you forsake the LORD and go a whoring after other gods.

The path for Israel to choose life was by loving the LORD their God, by obeying His voice (through the prophets) and by holding fast to Him and keeping all the conditions of the Covenant all the days of their life then God would prosper all they did and they would forever live in the land which the LORD swore to their fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them (Deut. 30:20).

#### **For a list of the Blessings and Curses see the title: -**

- Blessings and Curses in Various Topics (ON WEBSITE MENU).

#### **The Curses were to be Signs for Future Generations of Israel.**

The curses that came upon the previous generation of Israel were to be signs for the future generations of Israel. When they reflected back upon the previous generation and saw that they had been cursed rather than blessed, they should have known that the generation that went before them were acting against the LORD’S Covenant and this understanding should have motivated the future generations to change their ways accordingly.

The idea was that when the future generation of Israel saw the ruin that the LORD had afflicted on the people and the land of Israel they would ask themselves, “Why has the LORD done this? And the faithful men of the LORD would answer: -

- Because they forsook the Covenant of the LORD, the God of their fathers which He made with them when He brought them out of the land of Egypt (called the house of bondage). Therefore, the LORD brought upon the land every curse which is written in the book of the Covenant because they went and worshipped and served other gods (Deut. 29:22-27) the blessings and curses are in (Deut. 28).

God’s Principal for future Generations of Israel was that when a child of Israel asks their father in time to come, saying, “What do the testimonies, the statutes and the judgments mean which the LORD our God commanded you?” Then they were to say to their children, “We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt; and the LORD brought us up from Egypt with a mighty hand (Deut. 6:20-21).

The fathers of Israel were to teach all the words of the Covenant: -

- To their children talking of them when they sit in their house and when they walk along the road and when they lie down and when they rise up and write them on the doorposts of their house and on their gates so that their days and the days of their sons may be multiplied on the land which the LORD swore to their fathers to give them, as long as the heavens *remain* above the earth (Deut. 11:19-21).

### **The LORD Knows Israel will forsake Him and Turn to other gods.**

The LORD told Moses, that as soon as he lies down with his fathers the people of Israel will arise and play the harlot with the strange gods in the Promised Land into which they are going and will forsake the LORD their God and break His Covenant which He has made with them (Deut. 31:16). The LORD tells Israel that after He brings them into the Promised Land flowing with milk and honey, which He swore to their fathers and they have eaten and are satisfied, have built good houses and lived in them, and their herds, their flocks, their silver, their gold and all that they have multiplied and prospers then their heart will become proud and they will do the following two things:-

1. They will forget the LORD their God who brought them out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery and turn to other gods and serve them and spurn the LORD and break His Covenant (Deut. 8:12-14) (Deut. 31:20).
2. They will say in their heart, "My power and the strength of my hand has prospered me and made me this wealth (Deut. 8:17).

In pride Israel will turn from God to self-conceit, self-praise and self-idolisation they giving all the credit for their victories, success and prosperity to themselves and provoke the LORD their God to wrath as they did at Horeb (Mount Sinai) in making and worshipping the golden calf (Deut. 9:7-8) Deut. 9:16) and as they provoked the LORD in the wilderness (Deut. 9:22-24). In the book of Deuteronomy we are told, Israel made the LORD their God jealous with strange gods and sacrificed to demons who were not God, to gods whom they have not known, new gods and by these abominations they provoked the LORD their God to anger (Deut. 32:16-17).

**The Song of Moses:** the LORD gave Israel a song for all the future generations of Israel to sing that would confront and witness against them (Deut. 31:20-22, 30). The song is called the 'Song of Moses' it is a song about God the Father giving birth to Israel, God loving Israel as the apple of His eye and encircling and caring for them in the wilderness as His own children. The song contrasts the LORD'S faithfulness and Holiness to the unfaithfulness and lack of Holiness of the generation that crossed the River Jordan and entered the Promised Land.

The song is about how this generation stirred God to jealousy and anger and their forsaking the Rock of their Salvation by practising gross abominations and sacrificing to demons that were no gods. The lyrics sing of the generation who entered into the Promised Land becoming a perverse generation and forsaking the LORD so God abandoned them. The entire song is found in (Deut. 32).

### **The Glory, Wonder and Majesty of the LORD.**

Here is the glory, wonder and majesty of the LORD. God has delivered Israel out of the bondage and slavery of Egypt by a mighty hand and cared for them in the wilderness all the while fully aware that they would forsake Him as soon as Moses died and practice gross abominations and turn to the gods of the nations in the Promised Land that the people of those nations worshipped (which they did).

Yet the LORD tells the entire nation of Israel: -

- If they confess their iniquity and the unfaithfulness which they committed against the LORD their God and their heart is humbled so that they make amends for their iniquity, God will remember His Covenant with Jacob, Isaac and Abraham and will not reject or abhor them as to destroy them and thereby break His Covenant with them, but will remember them because He is the LORD their God" (Leviticus 26:40-45).

Moses told Israel that after God has blessed them with prosperity and wealth they will become puffed up in pride and two things will happen: -

1. All the curses of the Covenant will come upon them.
2. They will be scattered into foreign lands.

But if while living amongst these nations they ponder in their minds, "Why did the LORD their God banish them from their own land? And after honestly considering this question come to understand that it was because of their turning away from the LORD and forsaking the Covenant they had made with the LORD and humble themselves and return to the LORD and obey Him with all their heart and all their mind then God would restore them from captivity and gather them from all the peoples where He has scattered them (Deut. 30:1-3).

**The words of the Covenant fulfilled:** as the reader progresses through the Old Testament it becomes very clear that they forsake the LORD, practiced gross abominations and turned to worship the gods of the foreign nations that lived amongst them. Assyria invaded their land and God used Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon as His servant to bring all the curses of the Covenant upon Israel. The armies of Babylon invaded the land of Judea and brought the city of Jerusalem to ruin, destroyed the temple of God and took all the people of Israel into captivity for seventy-years.

During this period the two tribes of Israel became united and returned to the LORD in faithfulness. At the end of Israel's seventy years in captivity Cyrus conquered the empire of Babylon and gave Israel written permission to return to their land and rebuild Jerusalem and the temple of God. Under the leadership of Zerubbabel, Ezra and Nehemiah the people of Israel now united as one nation triumphantly returned with loud singing and great rejoicing to their beloved city Jerusalem.

Multitudes of Israelite families who had fled into the surrounding nations to escape the cruelty of the invading Assyrian armies and those of Judah who had fled to foreign nations to escaped the terror of Babylon's armies and the multitudes who had established homes and businesses amongst the nations of Babylon during the seventy-year captivity returned to the land of Israel and a time of peace and prosperity followed throughout their land.

**Moses death:** Moses went to the top of Pisgah in the land of Moab and the LORD showed him all the land that He swore to give to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and Moses saw it with his eyes (Deut. 34:1-7). Moses told all Israel that the LORD had told him he will not cross the Jordan River and enter into the Promised Land and died at one-hundred and twenty (Deut. 31:1-2) (Deut. 32:51). No one knows the place of his burial to this day (Deut. 34:1-7). After all the people of Israel wept for Moses for thirty days (Deut. 34:8) they followed and obeyed Joshua who was full of the Spirit of wisdom of God (Deut. 34:9). His eye was undimmed and his vigour was unabated when he died.

It is written of Moses: -

- There has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, there is none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel (Deut. 34:10-12).

**For further information see the titles: -**

- Moses on Mount Sinai and in the Wilderness.
- Blessings and Curses.

Both titles are in, Various Topic (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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End