

# **Moses' Valediction – The Book of Deuteronomy**

Sunday, March 1, 2026 12:00 – 1:00PM

Br. Joe Megacz

1. Describe some of the roles and accomplishments of Moses' life. Pastor Russell makes an astounding statement about Moses in paragraph 2. List some of the similarities between Moses and the Apostle Paul. (Paragraphs 1-3, attached chart on pages 5,6)
2. What does "Deuteronomy" mean? What does "valediction" mean? What is the book of Deuteronomy all about? What are the lessons for us? (Paragraphs 4-6)
3. Where is Mount Pisgah? What did Moses see from its heights? Why wasn't Moses allowed to enter the Promised Land? What two new types did Moses make or become? (Paragraphs 7-10)

From Reprint Page 3068:

1. AMONG THE GREAT ONES of earth, Moses stands out pre-eminent as a leader, lawgiver and ruler. He really combined in himself the three offices, prophet, priest and king. As a king, the representative of the great King, Jehovah, he would be classed as an autocrat whose meekness and gentleness, nevertheless, protected those under his care against any arbitrary use of his power and authority. Although Aaron was the high-priest proper, yet in a still larger sense he performed his services under, and as representative of Moses--and the latter had equal privilege of going into the Holy and Most Holy, and joined with Aaron at the close of the atonement day in giving the atonement blessing to the people. As a prophet, or teacher and lawgiver, he, under the instruction of the Lord, was far in advance, not only of others of his time but, of the many who have sought to copy and to improve upon the laws which he laid down. In all of this, however, he was merely a type of the great Prophet, Priest and King whom God purposed should in due time, accomplish a still greater deliverance for a still mightier host to a still better kingdom of promise, the Millennial Kingdom. Moses did not take the title of king or priest, although the humbler title of prophet, teacher or representative of God, represented also in his case the kingly and priestly functions that we have seen.

From Reprint Page 3077:

2. OUR LORD ALONE EXCEPTED, no character of history stands out before us so grandly and majestically as that of Moses, the great Apostle Paul, even, being overshadowed by him. If we think of him as a man, we see a sublime grandeur and nobility of character, combining strength with humility, wisdom with love and gentleness. If we consider him as the leader and deliverer of Israel, we find that he

accomplished a greater work than any of the kind before or since. If we consider him as the lawgiver, we find in his code of laws justice, wisdom, mercy and an appreciation of human nature far superior to anything of his day, and the basis upon which the laws of Christendom in this twentieth century are built. If we consider him as a statesman, we find him wise, prudent, careful, yet broad. We see how he brought order out of confusion, and changed a disorganized rabble of over a million into a thoroughly organized and well ordered nation. But it is when we come to consider him as the servant of God that his character shines out most brilliantly. His faithfulness to God; his faithfulness to the trust committed to him as the Mediator for his people; his self-sacrificing spirit in connection with the entire work, indicating that he served not the god of fame or of ambition or of self-love, but the Lord of hosts.

3. Moses was now 120 years old; 40 years of his life had been spent as an Egyptian prince, in the court of Egypt, educated, trained, and in the public service as a general and a ruler. The second forty years of his life he was a shepherd in the wilderness, because of his love for the Lord, his appreciation of the divine promise, and his preference to share these with his brethren, the Israelites, rather than to continue in the favor of the Egyptians, their enemies and oppressors. We have already seen how this wilderness experience was probably valuable to him, enabling him to transform and transmute the knowledge and experiences already gained into a broad and deep philosophy, the foundation of which was faith in God and respect for his promises. Thus does God sometimes work by natural means to prepare the instruments for his service. The closing forty years of his life were devoted to the exercise of all the knowledge, experience

and mental philosophy and faith previously gained, to the service of Israel as their leader, lawgiver, statesman--prophet, priest and king. And now his work was finished--the work which the Lord intended him to do. Another, Joshua, was to take up the work of leader, and he had already, by the Lord's direction, been formally and publicly ordained to this office, and Moses was ready to die.

From Reprint Page 3071:

4. IN HIS VALEDICTORY Moses proceeded to rehearse to Israel the Law of the Lord in full, reciting the blessings that would come from obedience to this Law, and the curses which would surely follow a disobedient course. He even proceeded to prophesy, and in the same chapter, in verses preceding our lesson, he points out that Israel would experience both the blessings and the curses, and that as a result they would ultimately be scattered throughout the earth, but that God, in infinite mercy, would remember them and finally bring them back to himself, and circumcise their hearts, a type of which circumcision they already had in the flesh. Compare Rom. 11:25-30.

5. In the closing words of this grand oration, the Prophet cautioned his brethren again concerning any disposition to leave the Lord and accept instead other gods. His words are specially applicable to spiritual Israelites, and we do well to give them earnest heed. We are already by faith in this blessed condition; we have heard the words of eternal life. We already have entered the Canaan-rest condition by faith in our Lord. We, therefore, are in danger from the besetments of our own flesh and from the besetments of sin abounding and from the Adversary--in danger of making other gods, and turning our hearts away from the proper center of their affections, either to the god of wealth or the god of fame or the lesser gods of the family circle and home, or to the

most ignoble of all, self. We are not to be drawn away by any of these from our loyalty to God, nor to render worship or service in any sense to any of these. To do so would mean to turn away from the hopes and joys and blessings now ours. To resist these temptations, and to abide in the Lord's favor, on the other hand, will mean to continue in the joys and blessings and rest of our present state of grace. Thus the Lord sets before us the blessings and the curses, the advantages and the disadvantages, the right course and the wrong course, life and death.

6. Our choosing of life and blessing and righteousness and God are not merely the choice of a moment; the daily trials and testings of life prove whom we love and whom we serve. Let us examine our hearts and our daily course of life, and note for what we are spending life's energies, what fills our affections, what "satisfies our longings as nothing else could do." To the extent that we find the Lord the center of our lives, our hopes, our aims, and his will the ruling law in every affair of life, in that same proportion we find joy and peace and blessing and growth spiritually. If we thus, under present conditions and trials and oppositions of the world, the flesh and the devil, separate from them and cleave to the Lord, we are choosing the better part, the part of blessing, choosing life, and we shall live and shall inherit the goodly land of promise, the Millennial Canaan, and there be joint-participators with our Master in bringing God's promised blessing to the world, that they also may hear and know and obey his voice, and cleave to him and thus have life, and inherit the other, the earthly, features of the Abrahamic blessing.

From Reprint Page 3077:

7. At this time the Israelites were in the land of Moab, at the northern end of the Dead Sea, opposite Jericho, and nearly in line with the city of Jerusalem. They awaited the Lord's direction, by the pillar of cloud, before crossing Jordan to take possession of Canaan. Here, Moses' work being accomplished, the Lord led him up to Mount Pisgah's top, a lofty peak 3,586 feet above the sea-level. From this point an extended panoramic view was possible--is possible today. Here Moses saw much with his natural eyes, but much more with the eye of faith, seeing the promises which God had made to the tribes of Israel, through Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and by his own mouth. He saw of the travail of his soul, and was satisfied. We hear not a murmur respecting the transfer of leadership and the cessation of his own labors. If God had used him in his service to the extent that he was pleased to do, the servant was thankful and satisfied.

8. One of the reasons mentioned why Moses was not permitted to lead Israel into the land of promise was the second smiting of the rock. The smiting the first time (Exod. 17:1-7) was by the Lord's direction, and the waters gushed forth, but the second time (Num. 20:2-12) the Lord said to Moses, "Speak unto the rock," but instead he smote the rock a second time.

9. In this he spoiled a type, while he made another type. Christ Jesus, the true Rock, was to be smitten but once for our sins, and as a result of that one smiting at Calvary the water of life would be obtained for all true Israelites to all time; and if for a season the flow was stopped it was only necessary that the Rock should be invoked in the name of the Lord, that the waters might again flow forth. Christ dieth no more; death has no dominion over him; therefore in the type the Rock should not have been smitten a second time. But the second smiting, nevertheless, made a new type, because as the Apostle explains, there are some now who crucify Christ afresh, and put him to an open shame--some of his professed followers denying or ignoring the value of the original sacrifice, denying the blood that bought them, are counted as committing the sin unto death--Second Death--and of these Moses became a type, and as a type of a class which would have to do with the antitype of the rock, he was debarred from Canaan.--Heb. 6:4-6.

10. But even aside from the making of this type, Moses would not have gone into the land of Canaan; because, from another point of view, he was the type of the Law Covenant, which must end before the people can enter into their rest. As Moses was the representative of the Law Covenant, so Joshua became the representative or type of the New Covenant and of its mediator, Jesus, the Deliverer. "The Law came by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."

# A Comparison of Moses and Paul:

## *Extraordinary Leaders of The House of Israel*

| Description                                                              | Moses                                               | Paul                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Appointed spokesman and teacher of The Covenants                         | The Law Covenant<br>Exo. - Deut.                    | The Grace Covenant<br>Gal. 3:7-29; 4:21-31; 5:1-6;<br>Romans 9<br>The New Covenant<br>Heb. 8:7-13; Heb. 9:11-15 |
| Chosen from birth to be a future leader                                  | To Natural Israel<br>Exo. 2:5,6,10                  | To Spiritual Israel<br>Gal. 1:15-16                                                                             |
| Received top education                                                   | Exo. 2:10; Acts 7:22                                | Acts 22:3; Gal. 1:14<br>Phil. 3:6                                                                               |
| Escaped death in a basket                                                | Exo. 1:22; 2:3                                      | Acts 9:23-25<br>2 Cor. 11:32-33                                                                                 |
| Involved with murder immediately before his calling                      | Exo. 2:12                                           | Acts 7:58<br>Acts 9:12                                                                                          |
| Talked to a Spirit Being after seeing a bright light                     | Exo. 3:2-4                                          | Acts 9:3                                                                                                        |
| Physically affected by the bright light of a Divine Being                | Exo. 34:29-20<br>2 Cor. 3:7-8                       | 2 Cor. 12:4-7<br>Acts 9:8-9                                                                                     |
| Fled to dessert for extended time and there grew in knowledge            | Exo. 2:15; Exo. 3<br>Heb. 11:27                     | Gal. 1:15-18                                                                                                    |
| Given assistance of a “right-hand man” to embark on his mission from God | Exo. 4:10,14-16                                     | Acts 9:26-27                                                                                                    |
| Rejected earthly riches and position of power                            | Heb. 11:26                                          | Phil. 3:4-8                                                                                                     |
| Was not an eloquent speaker but produced powerful written documents      | Exo. 4:10                                           | 2 Cor. 10:10; 11:6<br>1 Cor. 1:17                                                                               |
| Wrote major sections of Scripture                                        | Pentateuch<br>First five Books of the Old Testament | 14 Epistles of the New Testament                                                                                |

| <b>Description</b>                                                                                         | <b>Moses</b>                                                                                                   | <b>Paul</b>                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Performed extraordinary miracles</b>                                                                    | Acts 7:36                                                                                                      | Acts 19:11-12                                                                       |
| <b>Taught Circumcision of the heart</b>                                                                    | Deut. 30:6                                                                                                     | Rom. 2:29; Col. 2:11                                                                |
| <b>Fellow Hebrews rejected his message of truth and salvation</b>                                          | Acts 7:39                                                                                                      | Acts 18:4-6<br>Acts 22:18                                                           |
| <b>Fellow Hebrews chose slavery and bondage over freedom and salvation</b>                                 | Exo. 14:11-12<br>Num. 14:3-4                                                                                   | Gal. 4:25-26<br>Gal. 5:1-4                                                          |
| <b>Repeatedly asked God for a request but was denied</b>                                                   | Deut. 3:25-26                                                                                                  | 2 Cor. 12:7-10                                                                      |
| <b>Loved and cherished his brethren so much, was willing to give his life to save the people of Israel</b> | Exo. 32:31-32                                                                                                  | Rom. 9:2-3                                                                          |
| <b>Given a view of the Promised Land</b>                                                                   | Saw earthly phase<br>Deut. 34:4                                                                                | Saw spiritual phase<br>2 Cor. 12:1-4                                                |
| <b>Pointed to Jesus</b>                                                                                    | Pointed forward to Jesus:<br>Types in tabernacle to be fulfilled in the future.<br>Leviticus 9 & 16; John 5:36 | Pointed back to Jesus:<br>Types in Tabernacle were fulfilled in Jesus.<br>Hebrews 9 |
| <b>Instructed on The House of God</b>                                                                      | The literal Tabernacle<br>Acts 7:44<br>Gen.28:17<br>Ex. 25:9                                                   | The spiritual Temple<br>1 Cor. 3:16-17<br>Eph. 2:21<br>Heb. 9:11<br>1 Tim. 3:15     |
| <b>Instructed on the Priesthood</b>                                                                        | Aaronic<br>Exo. 28:1-4<br>Heb. 7:11                                                                            | Melchizedek<br>Hebrews 7                                                            |
| <b>Faithful to the end of his mission</b>                                                                  | Deut. 34:7,10<br>Heb. 11:2<br>Heb. 11:24-29                                                                    | Phil. 3:13-14<br>2 Tim. 4:7                                                         |
| <b>Will receive highest possible reward</b>                                                                | Psa. 45:16<br>Isa. 32:1<br>Luke 13:28-29<br>Isa. 24:23                                                         | 2 Tim. 4:8<br>1 Thes. 4:13-17<br>1 Cor. 15:23,51-52<br>Rev. 20:4                    |