

Text: Dt 10.1-22

THEOLOGICAL OUTLINE OF DEUTERONOMY¹

1. **Consider:** a review of God’s faithfulness (1.6–4.40)
2. **Covenant:** an exposition of the law (5–26)

5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
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3. **Commence:** preparations for renewing the covenant (27.1–28.68)
4. **Commit:** an exhortation to obedience (29.2–30.20)

Chapter 5 gave us the Ten Commandments, one writer² thinks that the rest of the “Covenant” sermon is a meditation on each of the Commandments in succession:

Major Issues	Godward	Manward
Authority	Commandment 1 Expounded in Dt 6-11	Commandment 5 Expounded in Dt 16.18-18.22
Dignity	Commandment 2 Expounded in Dt 12	Commandments 6, 7, 8 Expounded in Dt 19-21, 22.1-23.14, and 23.15-24.7
Commitment	Commandment 3 Expounded in 13.1-14.21	Commandment 9 Expounded in 24.8-16
Rights and Privileges	Commandment 4 Expounded in 14.22-16.17	Commandment 10 Expounded in 24.19-26.15

Dt 5.7 ¶ ‘You shall have no other gods before Me.

We turn to Deuteronomy 10. Our title is “*Hear O Israel (Part Two)*”

Chapter 10 continues the theme of chapter 9, so we need to review its message:

1. Hear, O Israel (1-3): God reveals to Israel that he is crossing Jordan

¹ Adapted from an outline in Lawrence O Richards, *The Bible Readers Companion*, electronic ed. (Wheaton: Victor Books, 1991), 117.

² John H. Walton, “Deuteronomy: An Exposition of the Spirit of the Law,” *Grace Theological Journal* 8, no. 2 (1987): 214ff.

ahead of them and will bring victory to them.

2. Do not say your victory is due to your righteousness (4-5): their victory is due to Canaanite wickedness and God's promises to Abraham
3. Remember who you are (6-14): You are a disobedient people whom God was prepared to destroy
4. Remember what Moses did (15-21): I interceded for you and for Aaron, You are here beside Jordan because I intervened for you.
5. Conclusion: You have been rebellious from day one (22-24): Moses mentions several other incidents of rebellion
6. The rationale of Moses' intervention: Remember your promise and your own reputation (25-29)

That brings us to Chapter 10:

First let's look for the paragraph divisions:

1. **Moses on the mountain, renewal of the tablets of the law, building of the ark, and Moses' return (1-5)**
2. **Parenthesis: death of Aaron, setting aside of Levi as the priestly tribe (6-9)**
3. **Conclusion of the intercession on the mountain with the Lord's command to go forward (10-11)**
4. **The conclusion: what God requires of Israel (12-22)**

Notes on Sections One and Three:

What three commands does God give to Moses in these two sections?

1. **Cut out two tablets (1)**
2. **Come up to Me (1)**
3. **Arise, go on your journey (11)**

What do you think these commands signify? **God is resuming the relationship with Israel, and will proceed to lead them to the promised land.**

Note on "ark" – "'Ark' was a common English word for box, chest, or basket in seventeenth-century England, and most modern English translations still use this old word."³

³ Tom Constable, *Tom Constable's Expository Notes on the Bible* (Galaxie Software, 2003), Dt 10.1.

Notes on Section Two:

The place names and events in this section are not in the same order as in Numbers (and there is some confusion about the names – partly because archaeology has been unable to precisely identify the locations).

The best answer is probably that Moses is referring to places and events randomly in Deuteronomy, highlight the places and events as further evidence of the continual spiritual troubles of then nation by merely mentioning these place names.

However, two events are sequenced here: the death of Aaron and the continuing priestly ministry of Levi. How does this contribute to the message of reassurance the whole passage emphasizes? **God will still commune with his people, despite rebellion.**

Notes on Section Four:

The last section is the conclusion of the whole matter. How should Israel live going forward? The Lord provides instructions here for the Israelites. Let's list the commands:

1. **Fear the Lord (12)**
2. **Keep the Lord's commandments (13)**
3. **Circumcise your heart (16)**
4. **Show your love for the alien (19)**

Despite the stern reminders of past disobedience, what is God's overall tone in this last section? **God speaks to Israel with love, calling the nation to obedience from a heart of gratitude towards God for his many blessings.**