

Restating the Law. The Book of Deuteronomy should remind us that we need to continually refill our minds with the Word just as much as we need to keep eating a meal as the benefits from so doing dissipate over time. We are leaky vessels and the old man will automatically re-strengthen if the new man of the spirit is not fed constantly. Moses the great prophet of Israel wrote out the same words as before so that the new generation could also benefit from the divine message, despite the laxity of the previous generation.

A land of river of waters. From Gudgodah to Jotbath was a land of rivers. We do not often associate that part of the world with a wet landscape, but the climate has significantly changed since ancient times. That area is now part of the Sinai desert which has an arid climate and a scarcity of water. In the future Kingdom age the climate will change again, and the land will be abundantly blessed. We need not fear climate change because God is in control and will stop the excesses of wayward man so that he cannot ruin this beauty planet even though it seems that way sometimes.

The Levites have no inheritance with his brethren. The Levites were selected to replace the first born and they served God in the capacity of altar ministration as well as musical provision during worship. They were not given a separate land inheritance among the other tribes but were instead to be found settled in their distinct cities where they could focus on the divine worship. Within the Levites were of course the Aaronic priesthood who served in a higher capacity.

To serve God with all the heart and soul. God is not looking for nominal followers who say they will serve Him but in reality, quickly return to their own self-serving ways. The Truth is not a group of self-appointed glory hunters, but a vibrant community of believers whose lives have been changed because of their decision to turn their backs of their former manner of life and start again together with others of like precious faith.

The heaven and the heaven of heavens. This term is interesting as it should remind us of the multiple way in which the Word speaks of heaven and heavens. The dwelling place of God is outside of time and space and was there before the heavens of Genesis one, were created. God might be said to dwell in an extra-dimensional plane which allows us to understand this on a certain level, but the fact that we are told little about this is in all probability because being created creatures we would struggle to comprehend it properly. Maybe we will be able to receive that information in the coming age when the saints are to be graced celestial bodies for themselves as Christ has already received. As the creator thereof he owns it. The universe/space heaven which contains all the stars and other cosmic features is just the expansion of His glory.

A God of gods, and Lord of Lords. YHWH is the only God. The celestial angels are His hands and feet, and as ministering spirits are there to do His pleasure. As such they have no freewill but are agents of righteousness. The invention of evil/sinful immortal angels is an aberration and distortion of scriptural principles on every level. Anyone immersed into the Word would pick that up from the Bible. All sinful angels are by definition mortal, as the wages of sin is death. The Eternal is sovereign and has the divine prerogative to punish or reward as He sees fit, which He does in accordance with His revealed Word. That is why it is so important to read its message and look to Jesus.

Love ye therefore the stranger. The children of Israel were strangers in Egypt. As such they were regarded as second class citizens. This is natural. Who would not wish to give precedence to their own children over others? Having that lived experience, they should have had sympathy with those who were aliens to the covenant. This had the attraction of encouraging them to examine the belief system and moral standards of the host nation Israel. God does not wish to exclude aliens but to convert them away from their own false religions and wayward cultures to the shining example of the very best that God can formulate for mortal man of any race or ethnicity. However they are not to be accepted with their engrained baggage but must be free to drop all that and leave it behind them in their walk Zion-ward with their newfound friends.

70 persons to the stars of heaven. This is sometimes taken as an example of the limitations of the Bible. Does not the God of Heaven know how vast the universe is? How is it possible to compare the number of Jews to the stars of heaven? The stars which are visible to the naked eye are much less in number. Is it not appropriate to use this language of immensity without being a scientific handbook? If God did use the accurate facts as He alone only knows them. How does that help us? He limits the metaphoric illustrations to what we can understand. The science of today is constantly being eclipsed by new discoveries, some true, some to be discarded again. God has provided the Bible as fit for purpose. Man's postulations and theorising are from a mortal mind. There is still much in scientific accuracy contained in the scripture to thrill the spiritual mind. Let us not put modern theories before the Word of God.

The "stars" we can see are often galaxies in themselves which contain enormous numbers of stars in turn. In the same way, the individual Jews of Moses' day will/have multiple(d) into their descendants of thousands if not millions of subsequent generations. How is that not an accurate portrayal of the observable sky? Other stars are individual stars which do not produce progeny but are a celestial dead-end, in both a spiritual as well as physical sense.

The explosion of the Hebrews from one basic family to a nation in such a short time is miraculous. From Abraham to Moses is 430 years. No nation has grown at such a rate at any other time in the entire history of mankind. God blessed Israel and will bless them again when they finally recognise their Messiah Jesus of Nazareth, the prophet greater than Moses.