QT Questions—for Deuteronomy

- *(Here's a short introduction to this book from one of my study Bible.)
- Deuteronomy means the "Second Law" or the "Repetition of the Law." (Our God does not mind repeating what He said before, because He loves us and wants us to know His ways, because His ways is truly what's best for us.) Deuteronomy records Moses' final words to the Israelites before they entered the Promised Land.
- As you read this book, you will see how God's people dealt not only with hardship, testing and doubt but also with promise, hope and trust. Let it serve as a reminder that faith is not automatic or mechanical. Faith becomes personal and active when it springs from a living relationship with a loving God. Moses challenged the people to faithfully obey the Lord and reject all forms of idolatry (the things we love in our lives more than our God—do you know what they are in your life?). The message of Deuteronomy can be summed up as follows: Devote yourself wholeheartedly to God.

Deut 1 (11/3/22)

- 1. In 1:1-18, in verses 1-3, what are the information given; after receiving the Law at Mount Horeb, what did God want His people to do; what was God's instruction when making a judgment; how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 1:19-33, what happened at Kadesh Barnea; as the people were unwilling to obey God, what did they accuse God towards them and why; how does Moses try to bring God back into their lives; can you share an incident when you (or someone else) brought God back into your life in the midst of your darkness?
- 3. In 1:34-46, does God lose His temper, why or why not; did Moses lose his temper, when and how; why is Moses speaking to the next generation as if they were guilty of the first generation's sin; why was it a sin to go to the hill country and fight when God did say to fight them previously; how is this applicable to you?

Deut 2 (11/4/22)

- 1. In 2:1-23, why wouldn't God give all the lands the Israelites came across; what happened in the last 38 years and why did that matter; what did God do for the Ammonites and for Esau's descendants and why; who is God and how should that impact your life?
- 2. In 2:24-37, how did God terrorize Israel's enemies and why; can you explain how God made King Sihon spirit stubborn and his heart obstinate, and yet, not cause him to sin though he sinned; why would God annihilate an entire nation; how is this applicable to you?

Deut 3 (11/5/22)

- 1. In 3:1-20, what about Og's kingdom that would make the Israelites afraid; after telling Moses to not be afraid to fight Og king of Bashan, what did God do for the Israelites; how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 3:21-29, what did Moses plead with God for and how did God answer him and why; what did God allow Moses to see but not enter and why; though he was not entering, and yet, what did God instruct Moses to do for Joshua; what kind of God do we meet here; how is this applicable to you?

Deut 4 (11/7/22)

- 1. In 4:1-14, what happened at Baal Peor and where is that in the OT; according to verses 7-8, what two ways are Israel so great; what does God want His people to do with His words/laws/decrees; what kind of God do you meet; how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 4:15-31, what were God's people to carefully remember and be careful about; how does God describe Egypt and in what ways is that so; what kind of God does He say He is and how should that impact your life?
- 3. In 4:32-49, from verses 32-34, what are the great things God wants His people to know; why did God showed them these things; what does God want His people to acknowledge; do you acknowledge the same today in your heart; how can that acknowledgement impact your life, in your deeds, words, thoughts, attitudes and purpose (can you think practical ways this can be applicable in your life)?

Deut 5 (11/8/22)

- 1. In 5:1-21, before giving His commands, what does God first say about Himself to His people; what were the do's and don'ts of His commands and why do you think that was; where is God's focus of our sinfulness; which of His commands do you struggle most and how are you battling against them?
- 2. In 5:22-33, though the people asked Moses to go and listen to God and then tell them what He said, which they said they will listen and obey (v. 27)—do you remember what happened, what the people ended up doing, while Moses went up the mountain to listen to God; why does God want His people to fear Him and keep ALL of His commands; so, what does God want His people to really do, will you explain why again?

Deut 6 (11/9/22)

- 1. In 6:1-9, what did God direct Moses to do and why; from verses 4-5, what are the two things God wants His people to hear and do; how can you do this better in your life; to whom are these to be taught and when and how would that look in your family?
- 2. In 6:10-25, where would the Lord bring His people and what would they experience there; what warning does God give to His people and why; what were the people to teach in the future to their children; according to verse 25, how would they earn their righteousness; how have you earned your righteousness?

Deut 7 (11/10/22)

- 1. In 7:1-11, who are the seven nations God commanded His people to drive out; how could the Israelites drive them out when they were stronger and larger than God's people; what did God not want His people to do with these people and why; why did God set His affection on His people; what did God want His people to know; how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 7:12-26, what does God want His people to do with His law and why; when God's people knew the enemies were stronger, what did God want His people to do; how

will God drive the enemies out; what did God command for His people to not bring into their house and lives; how is this applicable to you?

Deut 8 (11/11/22)

- 1. In 8:1-9, how did God sustain and provide for His people's needs during the 40 years in the desert; why did He humble them and allow them to hunger; where is God wanting to bring His people after the desert journey and why; what kind of God do we meet here; and how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 8:10-20, what does God want His people to do when they are satisfied and why; what happens to us when our hearts become proud and why; what does God want us to remember and why (v. 18) and how can you apply this into your life; will you list some of the things you remember how God has given you the ability to do?

Deut 9 (11/12/22)

- 1. In 9:1-5, what kind of people were the Israelites to dispossess, how and why; what about themselves were God's people to learn; who is God here and how does this impact your life today?
- 2. In 9:6-29, can you remember the ways God's people angered God in these places—at Horeb, at Taberah, at Massah, at Kibroth Hattaavah, and at Kadesh Barnea; according to Moses, what was God's intention and what was Moses' action; how can you summarize the people's heart and action; how is this applicable to you?

Deut 10 (11/14/22)

- 1. In 10:1-11, why did God had to write His commands again and where would they be placed to not be broken again; why did God set apart the Levites and why were they not given any share with their fellow Israelites; what kind of God do you meet here and how does His revelation impact your life?
- 2. In 10:12-22, what does the Lord ask of His people and why; as the highest heavens belong to God, yet where does He set His affection and therefore, what does He desire; what kind of God does Moses say He is; how are His people to be in light of their God?

Deut 11 (11/15/22)

- 1. In 11:1-7, even before keeping and remembering God's word, what does God want His people to do and why; how are you doing there and what can help you to do that even more; will you pray and see if you can implement one thing that will help you do this today and every day if possible?
- 2. In 11:8-32, what does God say happens if God's people observe all of His commands; have you witnessed this in your life, how and when; if God's people are not careful and do not follow God's commands, what will the people do and why; what practical ways does God teach us to remember to love and obey His word; meanwhile as we do this practical things, what are we to be careful about and why (Matt 23:5)?

Deut 12 (11/16/22)

- 1. In 12:1-14, what were they to destroy and not do and why; what were they to do and why there and not somewhere else when He is the Omnipresent God (Immanuel); how were they to worship and why; how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 12:15-32, though they were allowed to eat meat anywhere, why couldn't they eat the tithe in their towns; why couldn't they eat the blood; did the ceremonial uncleanness equal sinfulness, why or why not; what do you learn here?

Deut 13 (11/17/22)

- 1. In 13:1-11, how is God allowing the "testing" of one's devotion and why; what is God's command towards such people and who are included; despite the closeness and respect for such people, what kind of heart does God want His obedient people to have and why; who is to act first towards those people, how and why?
- 2. In 13:12-18, when God's people hear of troublemakers, what does God want His people to do (v. 14) and why; why wipe out the whole town, even animals; what kind of God do you meet here and how should He impact your life?
- Note on the three purposes of the law:
 - 1. Its first function is to be a mirror—reflecting to us both the perfect righteousness of God and our own sinfulness and shortcomings.
 - The law is meant to give knowledge of sin, and by showing us our need of pardon and our danger of damnation to lead us in repentance and faith to Christ (Gal 3:19-24).
 - 2. A second function is the "civil use"—which is intended to restrain evil.
 - Deut 13:11—"Then all Israel will hear and be afraid, and no one among you will do such an evil thing again."
 - 3. Its third function is to guide the believers into the good works—that God, our Father, has planned for His people, His children (Eph 2:10).
 - Christ taught that obedience to His commands will prove the reality of our love for Him (Jn 14:15).
 - Good works is not a prescription to our salvation, but it must be a description of us, who are saved by Christ's good work.

Deut 14 (11/18/22)

- 1. In 14:1-21, what was wrong with shaving; what did God want His people to know; if God's people were not to eat animals found already dead, why give or sell the dead animals to foreigners; how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 14:22-29, why were God's people to eat the tithe of their giving; what were they to do at the end of every third year and why; does God approve of drinking alcohol (fermented drink, v. 26), why or why not (Eph 5:18; Gal 5:21; Prov 20:1); how is this applicable to you?

Deut 15 (11/19/22)

1. In 15:1-11, what must (not should) a person do every seven years, why and what would that mean for the person obeying this command; who does God say there

- need not be and yet they are (vv. 4, 11), and how does God want His people to act; who does God say He is and how should that impact our lives?
- 2. In 15:12-23, when the servants are released, how are they to be sent and why; what is the meaning of the earring for a servant and why would he do that (and why should you do that); what is the command for the firstborn animals and why do you think that was; how is this applicable to you?

Deut 16 (11/21/22)

- 1. In 16:1-17, when observing the festival of the Passover, what are the people to remember and do and why was that important; when observing the festivals of Weeks and Tabernacles, <u>how</u> were they to do so and why; why does God command His people to rejoice when celebrating as if such feelings can be manufactured; how does this apply to you?
 - May I remind us, when God is calling for these feelings in us, He is not asking us to
 do it mechanically or hypocritically and definitely, not begrudgingly, but He really
 wants us to do so genuinely and truthfully, with all of our hearts, minds, and
 strength, in love with Him. I really love and appreciate our God so much for calling
 us to do it (celebrate/worship/serve) in this way. I can see the wisdom and joy
 obeying God's will, God's way. PTL!
- 2. In 16:18-20, how did God want His judges/leaders to judge; as His people, should the people accept their judgment and how and why; how well do you submit and accept such judgment; why is it difficult to accept certain judgment for you; where is God in all these for you?

Deut 17 (11/22/22)

- 1. In 17:1-7, if someone doing evil is brought to one's attention, what does God call His people to do and why; why does God require at least two or three witnesses before putting someone to death; who was to be first in the sentencing of the judgment; why do you think God gives these commands and why would they be good for us and how do we apply them to our lives?
- 2. In 17:8-20, if a decision is rendered, how is the person to accept them; why is God commanding to not show contempt for the judges or priests; how does God want the king of His people to act; what kind of God do you meet here and how are all these applicable to you?

Deut 18 (11/23/22)

- 1. In 18:1-8, as the Levites were not allowed their own allotment, how did God desire for them to survive and why in that way; in what sense is this a good way for God's people to live; what can you learn and apply into your life?
- 2. In 18:9-22, what does God not want His people to do in the land they were entering and why; who do the people of the land listen to; who were God's people to listen to and why; how can we know who really speaks for God; how could you apply this into your life?

Deut 19 (11/24/22)

- 1. In 19, in what two ways did God want His people to purge the evil out; why do you think God wants such violent acts to be done; how can God be good when His commands are so scary; how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 19, why did God want His people to set up the cities of refuge; why does He demand for more than two witnesses for a conviction; what did God want to happen for the people who give false witness and why; what kind of God do you meet here; how is this applicable to you?

Deut 20 (11/25/22)

- 1. In 20:1-9, in war, when the enemies are clearly greater, what does God want His people to not do, and why; what first three reasons are given to not join the army, why; what was the fourth reason for not joining the army for war and what did God not want to happen; how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 20:10-20, how differently did God want His people to wage war against the cities far and near; what was God's concern for the wars of His people; how is this applicable to you?

Deut 21 (11/26/22)

- 1. In 21:1-9, what was the process of the atonement for an unsolved murder and why do you think that was; why did God want His people to do this; how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 21:10-23, before an Israelite can marry a captive woman, what did God want him to do for her and why; what determined the right of the firstborn son and why was God insisting on it; what were the parents of a rebellious son to do and why; what was the sign of being hung on a pole and why does this become important later and where do we find the Scripture in the NT that speak on this?

Deut 22 (11/28/22)

- 1. In 22:1-12, when a neighbor is in need, what does God not want His people to do, how and why; what is the heart behind building a parapet in one's roof and how does that demonstrate God's heart; how do you understand not yoking or weaving together; how does it apply to you?
- 2. In 22:13-30, how does a man give a virgin young lady a bad name and why did this matter to God; what did God consider an outrageous thing and why do you think He did (v. 21); what did God want His people to do when a man or a young woman or both were found guilty and why; why did screaming matter in these case; how is this applicable to you?

Deut 23 (11/29/22)

1. In 23:1-14, who were forbidden to enter the assembly of God and why; who were allowed to enter after the third generation and why; even in war, what were God's people to keep away from and why; who is God and what does He do and how is that meant to impact God's people, and how is that applicable to us?

2. In 23:15-25, why did God not want to receive the wages of a prostitute, why; how seriously does God take the vows we utter with our lips and why; why would God allow our neighbors to enter our vineyards and eat; what does God want us to learn?

Deut 24 (11/30/22)

- 1. In 24:1-5, what does God say makes it detestable to Him and why do you think that is; if a man is recently married, what does God say the man should do and why; what kind of God do you meet here?
- 2. In 24:6-22, three times God said to His people to remember, what did He want His people to remember and why and how would that be applied to us; what did God say was a righteous act and why was that; which of the other commands of God strikes your heart more and can you share why?

Deut 25 (12/1/22)

- 1. In 25:1-10, unlike our judicial system today, when is the judge to impose the punishment and how far can he impose and why stop there; what is the duty of a brother-in-law and how is this command meant to bless; how can you apply them to your life?
- 2. In 25:11-19, why such severe punishment for a wife trying to help her husband; who does God say He detests and why; why is God commanding to destroy the Amalekites (remember Haman); what kind of God do you meet here and how is His revelation going to impact your life?

Deut 26 (12/2/22)

- 1. In 26:1-15, why did God want His people to offer the firstfruits and why was that a blessing; how have you found it a blessing in your life; why was it a blessing for God to choose a place to dwell (is He not supposed to be everywhere present)?
- 2. In 26:16-19, how does God want His people to follow His commands; how does He see His people; can we follow Him the way He desires and do you see yourself the way He sees you and will you explain how that has shaped you?
 - Side note of 26:12—why is the third year called the year of the tithe?
 - The Israelites tithed their firstfruits every year in Jerusalem (at the Temple).
 However, every third year they offered the tithe within their own towns rather
 than in Jerusalem (Deut 14:28-29). It was shared with the local Levites and
 provided food for the foreigners, widows and orphans who owned no land.
 - God's eyes are always on the sparrow. He looks out for the people who are in need. His compassion does not fail us.

Deut 27 (12/3/22)

- 1. In 27:1-8, the Promised Land should be their safe destination, so instead of resting, what are God's people to do there and why do you think that was; it seemed like a lot of hard work to coat large stones, so why did God want His people to do so; how were they meant to bless His people; how can you apply this to your life?
- 2. In 27:9-26, in verses 9-10, what did God want His people to listen to and how do they impact your life; rather than responding after all the curses were declared, what did God want His people to do after each pronouncement of the curses and why do

you think that was; of these curses, which ones have you seen or heard, and which one saddens you most and why?

Deut 28 (12/5/22)

- As you are reading this chapter, please consider these thoughts. In the three functions of the law, we know that the first is to be a mirror to us (see notes on Deut 13). That is, we see from the perfection of the law, that we are not able to keep them perfectly as we should; we fall short, which teaches us of the need for the Perfect Law-giver and the Perfect Law-keeper. So, how are we to understand the blessings and curses that come from our obedience and disobedience, when we already established that we cannot keep the law perfectly ourselves? To jump to the conclusion, despite our failure to keep God's law perfectly or obediently, we will not be condemned, but we will be considered righteous, because we trust and place our hope in Christ, who perfectly obeyed all the laws, and chose to become our Substitute, so that He would receive the penalty for our sinfulness, and amazingly, we would receive His righteousness, despite our full sinfulness. May I joyfully remind us, though we fail to obey our God completely, when we place our trust in Jesus' perfect obedience, then our holy Father treats us as perfectly righteous people, because He sees us in Christ and not on how we have failed. Christ's righteousness truly covers us completely and perfectly, and this is ours, only by faith, that is, we believe what Jesus did, He did for us. That is why, we declare, we are saved by faith alone, by grace alone, in Christ alone.
- 1. In 28:1-14, what does God want His people to do, to experience His wonderful blessings; which of the blessings do you delight the most; when you fail to obey God completely, what should happen, what should you do, what does God do; how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 28:15-68, from verses 20, 47 and 58, what does God consider evil and sinful and how do they resonate with you; which of the other curses frighten you the most; how do you think you can learn to fight off your inclination to disobey into a joyful obedience before God?

Deut 29 (12/6/22)

- 1. In 29:1-8, what does God say His people saw and should have learned; what did God wanted His people to learn and know by His doing and withholding; in your life today, in what ways do you learn this lesson and how can you better learn them?
- 2. In 29:9-29, what is the essence of the covenant between God and His people (v. 13); what is the heart and act that God desires from His people and why; when they do not, what could they expect and why would that be a blessing from God; how should your life be impacted by such lessons, and can you think of practical ways to live by them?

Deut 30 (12/7/22)

1. In 30:1-10, in verse 2, how is obedience to God more than a simple act and why do you think He desires that; how can your obedience be more like to God's desire; what is circumcision of the heart and why does God want that in His people; will you pray asking for this in your heart, to shape your daily life?

2. In 30:11-20, how is the offer of life and death decided; how has God made His word near His people; what does God desire for His people, then and now; where and how will you find His grace to do what our Father delights?

Deut 31 (12/8/22)

- 1. In 31:1-13, why does God say that His people need not fear or be discouraged even in the face of great adversity; in your moment of fear and discouragement, what should be the strength to pull you out; who and why did God want the people to assemble; how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 31:14-29, why did God want to write a song for Israel; what kind of impact should this song have for God's people; what are some of the ways God brings similar impacts to your life?

Deut 32 (12/9/22)

- 1. In 32:1-47, can you summarize the song simply in your way; can you offer a short reflection on verses 4, 9, 29; which other parts of the song strikes you most?
- 2. In 32:48-52, what happened at Mount Nebo and Mount Hor; how does God describe Aaron's and Moses' action; how can we learn to live after God's description here and can you think of a specific way to apply this into your life?

Deut 33 (12/10/22)

- 1. In 33:1-25, what does Moses desire to do before his death (reflect with Jacob's and Jesus'); which of the blessings for the tribes strikes your heart and will you share why; how does it apply to you?
 - As a side note—did you notice one tribe that's missing here?
- 2. In 33:26-29, what does Jeshurun mean and why are God's people called that; what does God do for His people; what is the result for God's people because of their God's action; how does this apply to you?

Deut 34 (12/12/22)

- 1. In 34:1-12, though the Promised land are for Abraham's descendants, why couldn't Moses enter it, as he served so faithfully and for such a long period; what does God allow for Moses to do at this moment; what does God allow in the NT (Matt 17) and why would this be; how is this applicable to you?
- 2. In 34:8, how was the leadership transferred from Moses to Joshua; what does God want us to see about Joshua; why should the people listen to him; how is this applicable to you?
- 3. From Deuteronomy—is there a truth or lesson or insight that ministered to you, will you share one or few of them?