

Deuteronomy 27

Chapter 27 of 34 · 26 Verses · Authorized King James Version

The Altar on Mount Ebal

¹ And Moses with the elders of Israel commanded the people, saying, Keep all the commandments which I command you this day.

² And it shall be on the day when ye shall pass over Jordan unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, that thou shalt set thee up great stones, and plaister them with plaister:

³ And thou shalt write upon them all the words of this law, when thou art passed over, that thou mayest go in unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, a land that floweth with milk and honey; as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee.

⁴ Therefore it shall be when ye be gone over Jordan, that ye shall set up these stones, which I command you this day, in mount Ebal, and thou shalt plaister them with plaister.

⁵ And there shalt thou build an altar unto the LORD thy God, an altar of stones: thou shalt not lift up any iron tool upon them.

⁶ Thou shalt build the altar of the LORD thy God of whole stones: and thou shalt offer burnt offerings thereon unto the LORD thy God:

⁷ And thou shalt offer peace offerings, and shalt eat there, and rejoice before the LORD thy God.

⁸ And thou shalt write upon the stones all the words of this law very plainly.

Curses from Mount Ebal

9 And Moses and the priests the Levites spake unto all Israel, saying, Take heed, and hearken, O Israel; this day thou art become the people of the LORD thy God.

10 Thou shalt therefore obey the voice of the LORD thy God, and do his commandments and his statutes, which I command thee this day.

11 And Moses charged the people the same day, saying,

12 These shall stand upon mount Gerizim to bless the people, when ye are come over Jordan; Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Joseph, and Benjamin:

13 And these shall stand upon mount Ebal to curse; Reuben, Gad, and Asher, and Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali.

14 And the Levites shall speak, and say unto all the men of Israel with a loud voice,

15 Cursed be the man that maketh any graven or molten image, an abomination unto the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and putteth it in a secret place. And all the people shall answer and say, Amen.

16 Cursed be he that setteth light by his father or his mother. And all the people shall say, Amen.

17 Cursed be he that removeth his neighbour's landmark. And all the people shall say, Amen.

18 Cursed be he that maketh the blind to wander out of the way. And all the people shall say, Amen.

19 Cursed be he that perverteth the judgment of the stranger, fatherless, and widow. And all the people shall say, Amen.

20 Cursed be he that lieth with his father's wife; because he uncovereth his father's skirt. And all the people shall say, Amen.

21 Cursed be he that lieth with any manner of beast. And all the people shall say, Amen.

22 Cursed be he that lieth with his sister, the daughter of his father, or the daughter of his mother. And all the people shall say, Amen.

23 Cursed be he that lieth with his mother in law. And all the people shall say, Amen.

24 Cursed be he that smiteth his neighbour secretly. And all the people shall say, Amen.

25 Cursed be he that taketh reward to slay an innocent person. And all the people shall say, Amen.

26 Cursed be he that confirmeth not all the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Altar — מִזְבֵּחַ (Mizbeach)

Altar, place of sacrifice

The Hebrew **mizbeach** (מִזְבֵּחַ) means altar—from the root 'to slaughter.' Altars were places where sacrifices were offered to God, pointing forward to Christ's ultimate sacrifice.

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Judgment — מִשְׁפָּט (Mishpat)

Judgment, justice

The Hebrew **mishpat** (מִשְׁפָּט) means judgment or justice—God's righteous decisions and ordinances. God is the Judge of all the earth who 'shall do right' (Genesis 18:25), executing perfect justice.

Law — תּוֹרָה (Torah)

Law, instruction

The Hebrew **Torah** (תּוֹרָה) means law or instruction—God's revealed will for His people. The Law includes moral, civil, and ceremonial commandments, revealing God's character and humanity's need for a Savior.

Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יהוה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Priest — כֹהֵן (Kohen)

Priest

The Hebrew **kohen** (כֹהֵן) denotes a priest—one who mediates between God and people through sacrifices and intercession. Aaron and his descendants served as Israel's priests, foreshadowing Christ the Great High Priest.

Word — דָבָר (Davar)

Word, thing, matter

The Hebrew **davar** (דָבָר) means word, thing, or matter—God's creative and authoritative speech. 'By the word of the LORD were the heavens made' (Psalm 33:6).

CROSS REFERENCES

Deuteronomy 27:1 **Parallel theme:** John 15:14. **Word:** Luke 11:28; James 2:10

Deuteronomy 27:2 **Parallel theme:** Ezekiel 11:19; 36:26. **References Lord:** Joshua 4:1; 8:31

Deuteronomy 27:3

Parallel theme: Deuteronomy 26:9; Numbers 13:27. **Word:** Joshua 8:32. **Covenant:** Hebrews 10:16. **References Lord:** Numbers 14:8; Joshua 5:6

Deuteronomy 27:5 **Sacrifice:** Exodus 20:25; 24:4

Deuteronomy 27:7 **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 12:3. **Peace:** Acts 10:36. **References God:** Deuteronomy 12:7; Habakkuk 3:18

Deuteronomy 27:8 **Parallel theme:** Habakkuk 2:2; John 16:25

Deuteronomy 27:10 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 5:48. **References God:** Micah 6:8. **Word:** Deuteronomy 11:1

Deuteronomy 27:12 **Parallel theme:** Judges 9:7

Deuteronomy 27:13 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 27:4

Deuteronomy 27:14 **References Israel:** Daniel 9:11

Deuteronomy 27:15 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 5:8; Exodus 20:4; 20:23; 34:17; 1 Corinthians 14:16. **References Lord:** Leviticus 19:4; 26:1

Deuteronomy 27:16 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 20:12; Leviticus 19:3. **Curse:** Exodus 21:17; Leviticus 20:9. **Light:** Ezekiel 22:7

Deuteronomy 27:17 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 19:14; Proverbs 22:28

Deuteronomy 27:18 **Curse:** Leviticus 19:14. **Parallel theme:** Job 29:15; Proverbs 28:10; Isaiah 56:10; Matthew 15:14

Deuteronomy 27:19 **Judgment:** Deuteronomy 10:18; 24:17; Exodus 23:2; Proverbs 17:23; 31:5; Micah 3:9; Malachi 3:5

Deuteronomy 27:20 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 22:30; Leviticus 18:8; 20:11; 1 Corinthians 5:1

Deuteronomy 27:21 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 22:19; Leviticus 18:23; 20:15

Deuteronomy 27:22 **Parallel theme:** Leviticus 18:9; 20:17; Ezekiel 22:11

Deuteronomy 27:23 **Parallel theme:** Leviticus 18:17; 20:14

Deuteronomy 27:24 **Parallel theme:** Leviticus 24:17; Numbers 35:31

Deuteronomy 27:25 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 10:17; 16:19; Psalms 15:5

Deuteronomy 27:26 **Word:** Psalms 119:21; Romans 10:5; Galatians 3:10. **Parallel theme:** Ezekiel 18:24