

Deuteronomy 27:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

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. Writing all the words of this law creates public record of covenant requirements. This is not selective quotation but comprehensive inscription of the law, making God's standards fully accessible.

The timing when thou art passed over indicates immediate action. Upon entering Canaan, before settling or conquering, Israel must inscribe the law. This prioritizes covenant commitment above all other concerns.

The description land that floweth with milk and honey contrasts blessing with obligation. Israel receives rich inheritance, but possession depends on covenant faithfulness. Blessing and obedience are inseparably linked.

The phrase as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee grounds present experience in past promises. God's faithfulness to the patriarchal covenant obligates Israel to faithful response.

Historical Context

Inscribing the entire law on plastered stones required substantial work - the Torah contains considerable text. This effort demonstrated serious commitment to making God's word publicly accessible.

The milk and honey description became traditional characterization of Canaan's fertility compared to wilderness regions where Israel wandered.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. What does comprehensive inscription of the law teach about complete disclosure of God's standards?
2. How does immediate inscription demonstrate proper priorities?
3. Why is blessing inseparably linked to obedience in covenant relationship?
4. What does grounding present experience in past promises teach about covenant continuity?
5. How should believers publicly declare commitment to God's word?

Interlinear Text

וְכָתַבְתָּ	אֶת	כָּל	דִּבְרֵי	הַתּוֹרָה			
And thou shalt write			upon them all the words	of this law			
H3789	H5921	H853	H3605	H1697			
הֵן	בְּעָבְרָךְ	לִמְעַן	אֲשֶׁר	תָּבֹא	אֵל		
H2063	when thou art passed over	H4616	H834	that thou mayest go in	H413		
	H5674			H935			
אֶרֶץ	אֲשֶׁר	יְהוָה	נָתַן	לָךְ	אֶרֶץ	זֹבֶת	
thee a land	H834	as the LORD	God	giveth	H0	thee a land	that floweth
H776		H3068	H430	H5414		H776	H2100
חֶלֶב	וְדִבְשׁ	בְּאֵשׁ	דָּבָר	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֵי		
with milk	and honey	H834	hath promised	as the LORD	God		
H2461	H1706		H1696	H3068	H430		
אֲבוֹתֶיךָ	לָךְ						
of thy fathers	H0						
H1							

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 26:9 (Parallel theme): And he hath brought us into this place, and hath given us this land, even a land that floweth with milk and honey.

Joshua 8:32 (Word): And he wrote there upon the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he wrote in the presence of the children of Israel.

Hebrews 10:16 (Covenant): This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;

Joshua 5:6 (References Lord): For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people that were men of war, which came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD: unto whom the LORD

sware that he would not shew them the land, which the LORD sware unto their fathers that he would give us, a land that floweth with milk and honey.

Numbers 14:8 (References Lord): If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.

Numbers 13:27 (Parallel theme): And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.

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