

THE NATURE OF BLESSING

I. Introduction

Thank you for joining us today in our continuing study in Deuteronomy. This is our 46th lesson and we are in Deuteronomy 28:1-14 where we discover aspects of blessing. Blessing is the term that describes the conferring of a gracious act by one party on another. Generally the greater is the one blessing but this is not always the case as when we bless God and there are some technicalities in that. Some scholars try to limit blessing to just physical things, others to just spiritual things, but in my mind both are included. The particular blessings of the chapter we are now studying are largely physical with a spiritual foundation. In other words, your spiritual conformity has brought you to a place of physical blessing. These acts of God's grace are more readily seen and so are more quickly understood. But blessing is not limited to those areas and we must use it in a wider scope. Remember that we are seeing the stipulations given for the covenant of God and the challenge to Israel was to see, to hear, and to react to what God would do. In verses 1-14 we need no further outline and may proceed directly to the text.

II. Discussion

28:1....."if": "observe and do" "all the Lord commands"...these are the significant terms in this verse

28:2.....the blessings will overtake you

28:3.....you will experience them wherever you are

28:4.....there will be an increase (multiplication) of all that is important to you.

28:5.....your supplies for life will increase

28:6.....you will be honored in all life moves

28:7.....your foes will be overwhelmed..you will be delivered

28:8.....every aspect of life will e enriched

28:9.....you will be His special people...if...

28:10.....you will be respected in all the earth

28:11....and the Lord will cause you to abound

28:12....the Lord will make nature smile on you