

THE PROMISES AND THE LAWS

I. Introduction

Welcome once more to another study in Deuteronomy. We are approaching the end of the book and these last few chapters take up events in the end of Moses' life. In some ways these are very touching chapters as we think of the life of this man of God but what pleases us most is the recognition of his faithfulness to God to the very last degree. Hebrews tells us he was faithful in all his house and we see that dramatized in these final chapters. We can feel his disappointment and frustration but we need to grip even more his spirit of total commitment to the call of God. Even now, with death near and a successor at hand, he is anxious for the law of God to be known and honored and his efforts to see it ingrained in the national economy. I have divided chapter 31 into two parts..the first, vss 1-13 showing Moses' unswerving attempts to see God's Word honored and the second as vss 14-30, a discussion of his preparatory discourse with the Lord.

II. Discussion

31:1.....Moses' age and the Word of the Lord

31:2-3....the promise of God's presence and Joshua's leadership

31:4.....the assurance of victory

31:5.....be strong: courageous (a jussive)

31:6.....the Lord is with you..He will not fail nor forsake

31:7.....address to Joshua: Be strong and courageous

31:8.....again, the promise of God's presence

31:9.....the law is written and given to the Levites

31:10.....instruction is given for the year of release

31:11.....the law is to be read to all the people

31:12.....gather everyone to hear, learn, fear

31:13.....and make sure that coming generations will know as well and be able to comply.

III. Conclusion

Moses knows that even the best of men come and go..and there is a great concern expressed for the generations that will come. If they