

do not know the Word and way of God they will fall into the pits of difficulty that marked their forbears. Every effort is made to assure that the truth will be available and responsible persons will see to its administration. The law of God is forever and it is to these truths of eternal character that our eyes look. You must always remember that salvation is not by keeping laws..it is by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and, in some ways, that is the chief of all the decrees of God. And thanks again for joining us...may the Lord's blessing be seen in your life today as you...and all of us, in fact, yield to His Word.

Message # 52

Deuteronomy 31:14-30

THE COMMISSIONING OF JOSHUA

I. Introduction

Once again we welcome you to a study in Deuteronomy..a series now coming to message 52 and Deuteronomy 31:14-30. The passage discusses the assignment given to Joshua and more of the Lord's talk with Moses. I have always been encouraged by those dialogues for they show us the patience and availability of God as well as His expectations. They also show our weaknesses and strengths and how God works through fallible people to achieve His infallible will. Some of us are afraid to talk frankly with God and I am not suggesting we should be arguers or debaters. But the God who directs our path is a God whose senses are open to our needs and we should have no hesitation in presenting them to God as well as in confiding in His certain love and guidance. In our chapter we find the following divisions of material:

- 31:14-21...Moses and Joshua..instructions and guidelines when judgment comes
- 22-30...Moses delivers the law and a song

II. Discussion

- 31:14.....Moses and Joshua at the tabernacle..God will give the charge...
- 31:15.....The Lord appears..note the pillar of cloud (remember the ascension in Acts 1)
- 31:16.....The Lord predicts defection among Israelites after the death of Moses.
- 31:17.....God's judgment...the people's lack of perception
- 31:18.....the Lord will not respond to insincerity
- 31:19.....so prepare a song to teach them the ways of God and to have them in heart.