

estimate what we lose by disobedience and a lack of concern for the will of God. But God is still faithful and the spiritual prodding continues: to love Him and obey Him. Thanks for giving us your ear today and may God bless you by His Word and the Work of His Spirit.

Lesson # 23

Deuteronomy 11:13-32

THE NATIONAL OPTION: BLESSING OR CURSING

I. Introduction

Welcome again to our continuing study in Deuteronomy. I can only hope you are enjoying the study as much as I am although as I read through the book I am often challenged by my lapses in faithfulness and the love of God. The latter is the great theme of this book, the former is the record of Israel's performance. And while we are in another age, it is not bad at all to see the correspondence of love and obedience and the results that flow from them on the negative side if they are omitted. This part of Deuteronomy (chapters 5-11) stresses the basis of Israel's faith: the law and the love of God. And now, as Moses concludes this segment, he says in a very direct way: it is up to you, Israel, to determine what your future and destiny will be. We outline this section, Deuteronomy 11:13-32 like this:

- 13:13-17....promise of Divine response
- 18-25....the means and fruit of blessing
- 26-32....the determination of the option

II. Discussion:

11:13....."if"...you love and serve...the potential is there

11:14-15.."then" I will give...the rain and the produce

11:16-17..But if you turn away and aside after other gods, then the Lord's anger will be kindled against you and you will suffer the consequences.

The challenge is pretty straightforward.

11:18-20..The key to the option is to honor the Word

- v. 18....in your person
- v. 19....in your family
- v. 20....in your possessions

11:21.....The result being a happy continuance in the land