The Book of Deuteronomy

The Final Blessing of Moses

Text: Deuteronomy 33 – 34

Introduction:

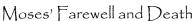
- 1. God's command for Moses to go up to Mount Nebo where he would die is recorded at the end of chapter 32.
- 2. The death of Moses is recorded in chapter 34.
- 3. In between those two passages stands chapter 33 "The blessing wherewith Moses the man of God blessed the children of Israel before his death."
- | Introduction (33:1-5)
 - A. Note that Moses was called the "man of God."
 - B. This blessing is tied to the promise made to Abraham (Gen. 12:1-3) and the blessing bestowed by Jacob at the end of his life (Gen. 49).
 - C. Vs. 2 The glory of God
 - D. Vs. 3 The love of God
 - E. Vs. 4 The law of God
 - F. Vs. 5 The authority of God
 - 1. Jeshurun is a symbolic name for Israel (Deut. 32:15; 33:5, 26; Isa. 44:2).
 - 2. It means, "Upright; the upright people; the righteous ones."
 - 3. Note that God was their King.
- 11. The Blessing

(33:6-25)

- A. Vs. 6 Blessing upon Reuben
- B. Vs. 7 Blessing upon Judah
 - 1. See Genesis 49:8-12
 - 2. God would hear the prayers of Judah.
 - 3. Thus, He would guide and protect them.
- C. Vs. 8-11 Blessing upon Levi
 - 1. The High Priest (and the priesthood) would be from the tribe of Levi.
 - 2. They had been chosen for this honor because of their faithfulness (Exo. 32:26-29).
 - 3. They were responsible for teaching the law to the people.
 - 4. They were responsible for the worship of Israel.
 - 5. They were responsible for the sacrifices of Israel.
- D. Vs. 12 Blessing upon Benjamin
- E. Vs. 13-17 Blessing upon Joseph
- F. Vs. 18-19 Blessing upon Zebulun and Issachar
- G. Vs. 20-21 Blessing upon Gad
- H. Vs. 22 Blessing upon Dan
- I. Vs. 23 Blessing upon Naphtali
- J. Vs. 24-25 Blessing upon Asher
- |||. Conclusion (33:26-29)

Lesson Eight

Section Four



Chapters 31 - 34

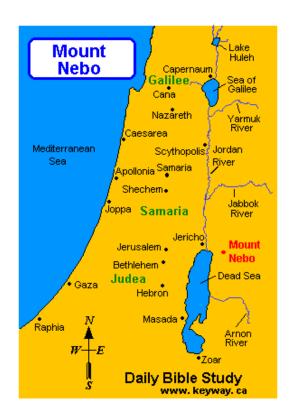


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IV. The Death of Moses

(32:48-52; 34:1-12)

- A. God commanded Moses to go up into the mountain where he would die.
 - 1. Compare this passage with Numbers 27:12-14.
 - 2. Mount Nebo was located on the east side of the Jordan River directly across from Jericho.
 - 3. From it could be seen the Dead Sea, the Jordan River valley, the city of Jericho, and in the distance the hills of Jerusalem.
- B. Before he died, Moses would be allowed to look upon the Land of Canaan but, he would not be allowed to enter into it with the children of Israel.
 - 1. Note that Moses was able to see all the way to Dan and Naphtali, far north in the land (around 100 miles).
 - 2. Though Moses' "eye was not dim," it seems that God aided him in seeing all the promised land of Canaan.
- C. Moses died in the land of Moab, without ever entering into the land of Canaan.
- D. He was buried by God in an unknown location (cf. Jude 9).
- E. Moses was 120 years old when he died.
- F. He was mourned by Israel for 30 days.
- G. Then, following the leadership of Joshua, they began their final steps toward the land of Canaan!



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