



DEUTERONOMY

A CHALLENGE TO A NEW GENERATION

GOD'S PROMISES DECLARED

BIG IDEA: God's faithfulness is revealed in the Spiritual Markers of our lives.

DATE: Sunday, July 19, 2026

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 27:1-15; Johsua 8:30-35

OPENING QUESTION

What is the most impressive monument you have seen? What was most memorable about it?
What is one monument you have never seen but would really like to?

SETTING THE STAGE

In Deuteronomy 27, we find Moses commanding Israel to set up an altar of remembrance – one that communicated their history and identity; one that communicated they were under Yahweh's rule. He then calls out specific rules and calls on the community to obey. Chapter 28 continues with a detailed list of blessings for obedience and the curses that will follow for disobedience.

SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 27:1-15 (CSB)

Moses and the elders of Israel commanded the people, "Keep every command I am giving you today. ² When you cross the Jordan into the land the LORD your God is giving you, set up large stones and cover them with plaster. ³ Write all the words of this law on the stones after you cross to enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, a land flowing with milk and honey, as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, has promised you. ⁴ When you have crossed the Jordan, you are to set up these stones on Mount Ebal, as I am commanding you today, and you are to cover them with plaster. ⁵ Build an altar of stones there to the LORD your God—do not use any iron tool on them. ⁶ Use uncut stones to build the altar of the LORD your God and offer burnt offerings to the LORD your God on it. ⁷ There you are to sacrifice fellowship offerings, eat, and rejoice in the presence of the LORD your God. ⁸ Write clearly all the words of this law on the plastered stones."

⁹ Moses and the Levitical priests spoke to all Israel, "Be silent, Israel, and listen! This day you have become the people of the LORD your God. ¹⁰ Obey the LORD your God and follow his commands and statutes I am giving you today."

¹¹ On that day Moses commanded the people, ¹² "When you have crossed the Jordan, these tribes will stand on Mount Gerizim to bless the people: Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Joseph,

and Benjamin. ¹³And these tribes will stand on Mount Ebal to deliver the curse: Reuben, Gad, Asher, Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali. ¹⁴The Levites shall recite to all the people of Israel in a loud voice: ¹⁵"Cursed is anyone who makes an idol—a thing detestable to the Lord, the work of skilled hands—and sets it up in secret." Then all the people shall say, "Amen!"

DISCUSSION

PHYSICAL MARKERS OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

READ: Deuteronomy 27:1-10

- What was Israel instructed to create? How, or with what materials, were they to create it? When were they to create it?
- How can spiritual markers, such as these stones, serve as reminders of God's faithfulness to keep His promises?

VERBAL REMINDERS OF THE RESULTS OF FOLLOWING GOD

READ: Deuteronomy 27:11-15

- When was this ceremony to take place? What was the role of the Levites in it? What was the role of the people in it?
- Why did God want to give His people a verbal reminder of His commandments?

THE COVENANT RENEWED

LOOK UP: Joshua 8:30-35

- What do you imagine it was like for the Israelites to hear "all the words of the law" read aloud to them in their new home?
- What were they reminded of about God? About worshiping the Lord through exclusive devotion?

OUR SPIRITUAL MARKERS TODAY

- Today, what is our reminder of God's laws and God's promises to us?
- What are some physical or verbal spiritual markers God has used in your life to remind you of His promises and faithfulness?

RESPONSE

Reflect on God's faithfulness in your life. Picture each thing He has done as a spiritual marker or stack of stones like the Israelites used. As you look back on your life you will see these reminders of His faithfulness in the past. If you have never done it, you may want to write some of these down. You may want to build or buy something that reminds you and put it somewhere you will see it. Look for ways this week to incorporate spiritual markers into your life.