RETELLING HISTORY

Deuteronomy 1–4 retells the story of God’s deliverence of Israel from slavery in Egypt all the way to the Jordan. Before Moses reiterates the Ten Words, he makes one more appeal based on the past rebellion of the people and the consequences that resulted. In addition, he warns of more consequences to follow if they continue in rebellion. Along with many other places in the Old Testament, this is a prediction of the exile that the people will experience when they are totally given over to evil. The exile will be God’s last resort to bring them back to Him. While God wants us to be happy here on earth, His ultimate goal is eternal happiness with Him in heaven, and He will leave out no possibility to bring us to repentance, even if it means privation and exile.

The key to remaining faithful to God has to do with one’s heart. Deuteronomy is full of references to the heart, and it notes how that is where we connect with God and He speaks to us and changes us. Moses reminds the people that they need to examine themselves and watch to make sure they do not forget what they have seen. All that God has done for them is in their hearts, and it is when they forget this that they are in danger of rebellion. To remember also involves telling others about what God has done; this cements it in the memory. Israel was to know and consider in their hearts that the God they serve is the only God, the one who loves them and chose them. It is only as they focus on this love that they will remain faithful.
Write out Deuteronomy 4:7–40 from the translation of your choice. If you are pressed for time, write out Deuteronomy 4:29–31. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, or outline or mind-map the chapter.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw Arrows to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse in Deuteronomy 4:7–40. Write it out multiple times to help memorization.

What difference does it make in your life that God’s heart breaks when you sin?

Can you think of an example of idolatry in your own life, or that you have witnessed?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/deut02-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks overall seem to point to?

What questions emerge after reading Deuteronomy 4:7–40?
What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

How does seeing God as a personal being impact your relationship with Him?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/deut02-4
What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

Numbers 20:1–13
Exodus 19:1–16
Genesis 15:1–6
Judges 13:8–23
Exodus 33:12–34:9
Ezekiel 1:19–28
Revelation 1:12–18
Daniel 7:9, 10, 13, 14

What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with Deuteronomy 4?

Review your memorized verse from Deuteronomy 4:7–40.
Meditate on Deuteronomy 4:7–40 again and look for where Jesus is.

What is He saying to you through the texts of the week?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

How is Jesus’ mercy the foundation of your faith?

Read more at
www.inversebible.org/deut02-6
inSight

Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study of the chapter, what personal applications are you convicted of in your life?

What are applications you must make in your school, family, workplace, and church?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/deut02-7
inQuire

Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

Though we may think we do not have idols as graven images in our house, how else may we have an idol?

How do we know when we have an idol in our hearts?

How do you seek God with all your heart and soul?

How can God’s jealousy be a positive element?

How can we rejoice in the apparent paradox between God’s almighty power and consuming presence, and His compassion and tender-hearted love?

What are some promises that give you courage to return to God after you sin, trusting in His love and compassion, no matter your sin?

How has God shown compassion and mercy to you?

Where is your heart with God right now?

Rebellion and Consequences