CHOOSE LIFE!

Deuteronomy is the heart of the gospel, the foundational book of the Bible. God’s heart and gracious character are seen clearly here, along with His desire for us to live with Him forever in health and joy. Of all the chapters in Deuteronomy, chapter 30 captures the plan of salvation in such simple terms and calls us to a decision to choose God.

God is life, and choosing Him is choosing life. It really is that simple. God has not made it complicated. The Torah is not far off or confusing. Unlike in many other religions, we are not left in doubt as to what God would have us do. And when we let God work in our hearts, the Torah is not hard either. Following God’s commands flows naturally from following God and basking in His salvation for us.

God’s greatest desire is to bless us, abundantly and eternally. God rejoices in His people, to prosper and multiply them. Despite our sin, God has compassion on us, and brings us back from where we were scattered due to our rebellion and the consequences of the covenant curses. This is grace par excellence: undeserved favor.

Ultimately, this chapter is all about the heart. God is not interested in obedience per se, but in a relationship with us. He knows that our only hope is to love Him with all our heart, but we cannot even do that on our own. So He does the heart circumcision necessary for us: this is the gospel in a nutshell.
Write out Deuteronomy 30:1–20 from the Bible translation of your choice. If you’re pressed for time, write out Deuteronomy 30:15–20. 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.
Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

What difference does it make to you personally to realize that the Old Testament is not legalistic?

In what ways have you rejected God? How has He renewed His covenant of salvation with you?

Read more at
www.inversebible.org/deut11-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks seem to point to overall?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

How has God shown you immense patience and compassion?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/deut11-4
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What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

Ezekiel 36:26–32
Joel 2:12–14
Deuteronomy 10:14–16
Ezekiel 18:23–32
Zephaniah 3:14–17
Jeremiah 32:26–42

What other verses come to mind in connection with Deuteronomy 30?

Review your memorized verse from Deuteronomy 30:1–20.
Where is Jesus in Deuteronomy 30:1–20?

What is He saying to you through these texts?

In what ways has Jesus shown Himself to be your very life?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

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

What are practical applications you must make in your relationships?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/deut11-7
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.

How is God’s law clear in comparison to the laws of other nations and religions?

How does true love result in willing obedience?

How have you experienced redemptive punishment in your own life?

How have you experienced grace (undeserved favor) in your life, like Israel did in being brought back from exile by God?

How do you see the choice between death and life manifested in your own circumstances and decisions?

What difference does it make in your life to think about God rejoicing over you?

How can you inspire your friends and family to choose life?