

# Deuteronomy: God's Covenant People

[#4] *We All Want God's Job* – Deuteronomy 1:19–46

**Sermon Outline** – August 6, 2017

## Children's Sermon: Why don't we Believe in God?

Do you like being told what to do?

### Genesis 2:9

And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is *pleasant to the sight* and *good for food*. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

- If Adam and Eve had everything they needed, **why did they even want to** eat the forbidden fruit? (e.g. Beauty, Food, Water, Challenging Purpose, Authority)

### In what ways are we rebels like Adam & Eve?

We don't believe God is good. (*We decide what is good for us; We are evil*)

We don't trust what he says to be true. (*We trust our own opinions; We are proud*)

We don't obey his commands. (*We do what we want; We are rebellious*)

**We want God's Job!**

## *The Historical Review (Prologue)*

Notes:

### The Lord's Powerful Grace in the Wilderness (1:6–4:40)

- A. God's Good Creation at Horeb (1:6–18)
- B. **Rebellion at Kadesh Barnea (1:19–46)**
- C. Instructions about Edom & Moab (2:1–15)

### Rebellion at Kadesh Barnea (1:19–46)

1. Instructions at Kadesh Barnea (1:19–25)
2. Rebellion against the Lord's Command (1:26–33)
3. The Lord's Judgment (1:34–40)
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> Rebellion: Failed Conquest of Canaan (1:41–46)

### Deuteronomy 1:19–25

<sup>19</sup> “Then we set out from Horeb and *went through all that great and terrifying wilderness* that you saw (Cf. 8:15), on the way to the hill country of the Amorites, **as the Lord our God commanded us**. And we came to Kadesh-barnea. <sup>20</sup> And I said to you, ‘You have come to the hill country of the Amorites, which the Lord our God is giving us. <sup>21</sup> *See, the Lord your God has set the land before you. **Go up, take possession,** as the Lord, the God*

of your fathers, has **told you**. Do not fear or be dismayed.' <sup>22-25</sup> (spied it out; Valley of Eshcol) <sup>25</sup> ... 'It is a good land that the Lord our God is giving us.'

### Deuteronomy 1:26–33

<sup>26</sup> **“Yet you would not go up, but rebelled against the command of the Lord your God.** <sup>27</sup> And you murmured in your tents and said, ‘Because the Lord hated us he has brought us out of the land of Egypt, to give us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us. <sup>28</sup> Where are we going up? Our brothers have made our hearts melt, saying, “The people are greater and taller than we. The cities are great and fortified up to heaven. And besides, we have seen the sons of the Anakim there.”’

<sup>29</sup> **Then I said to you,** ‘Do not be in dread or afraid of them. <sup>30</sup> **The Lord your God who goes before you will himself fight for you, just as he did for you in Egypt before your eyes,** <sup>31</sup> and in the wilderness, where you have seen how the Lord your God carried you, as a man carries his son, all the way that you went until you came to this place.’ <sup>32</sup> Yet in spite of this word **you did not believe the Lord your God,** <sup>33</sup> who went before you in the way to seek you out a place to pitch your tents, **in fire by night** and **in the cloud by day,** to show you by what way you should go.

### Deuteronomy 1:34–40

<sup>34</sup> “And the Lord heard your words and was angered, and he swore, <sup>35</sup> ‘Not one of these men of this evil generation shall see the good land that I swore to give to your fathers, <sup>36</sup> **except Caleb** the son of Jephunneh. He shall see it, and to him and to his children I will give the land on which he has trodden, **because he has wholly followed the Lord!**’ <sup>37</sup> Even with me the Lord was angry on your account and said, ‘You also shall not go in there. <sup>38</sup> **Joshua** the son of Nun, who stands before you, he shall enter. Encourage him, for he shall cause Israel to inherit it. <sup>39</sup> And as for your little ones, who you said would become a prey, and your children, who today have

no knowledge of good or evil, they shall go in there. And to them I will give it, and they shall possess it. <sup>40</sup> **But as for you, *turn, and journey into the wilderness* in the direction of the Red Sea.'**

### **Deuteronomy 1:41–46**

<sup>41</sup> ***“Then you answered me,*** ‘We have sinned against the Lord. We ourselves will go up and fight, just as the Lord our God commanded us.’ And every one of you fastened on his weapons of war and thought it easy to go up into the hill country. <sup>42</sup> And the Lord said to me, ‘Say to them, ***Do not go up or fight,*** for I am not in your midst, lest you be defeated before your enemies.’ <sup>43</sup> So I spoke to you, and ***you would not listen;*** but ***you rebelled against the command of the Lord*** and presumptuously went up into the hill country. <sup>44</sup> Amorites... chased you as bees do and beat you down... <sup>45</sup> And you returned and wept before the Lord, but ***the Lord did not listen to your voice*** or give ear to you. <sup>46</sup> So you remained at Kadesh many days, the days that you remained there.

#### ***Today’s Clear Biblical Bullet...***

Israel hated being ruled by God.  
The self-rule they loved, achieved for them an utter failure to inherit the promised land.



### **Believing in God is the Main Thing**

#### **Romans 7:24–25**

<sup>24</sup> ***Wretched man that I am!*** Who will deliver me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup> ***Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!*** ...

We are wicked!

We are impotent!

Our way earns us nothing but more of God’s wrath!

***...Fired at our Life & Heart***  
Repent & Trust Jesus.



Real repentance is a new worship. It looks like a changed life, but that changed behavior results from a change of worship, not the other way around. Repentance is being convicted by the Holy Spirit of the sinfulness of our sin— not the badness of our deeds but the treachery of our hearts toward God. Repentance means hating what we formerly loved and served—our idols—and turning away from them. Repentance means turning to love God, whom we formerly hated, and serving him instead. **It's a new deepest loyalty of the heart.** (emphasis mine) <sup>1</sup>

### **Romans 8:6–9**

<sup>6</sup> For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup> ***Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*** <sup>9</sup> You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, ***if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you.*** Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

#### **A Few Meditation Questions:**

- Are you beginning to grasp how wicked it is for us to doubt God's goodness?
- Do you find yourself thinking less about what you are doing for God and more about what God has done/is doing for you? (i.e. Trusting the gospel promises not your own efforts)
- Do you find yourself motivated more out of guilt or gratitude?
- Consider how to explain true faith and repentance to someone who does not understand them. Take some time practicing this with a brother/sister in Christ.

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<sup>1</sup> Lawrence, Michael. Conversion: How God Creates a People (9marks Building Healthy Churches) (pp. 52-53). Crossway. Kindle Edition.