

## Life Lessons from Jesus' Favorite Book, Studies in Deuteronomy

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### HARDSHIPS ARE HEAVEN-SENT DEUTERONOMY 8

#### Using This Study

##### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

##### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

##### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.

#### Guest Speaker:

##### Dr. Ken Hanna

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B.A., Bryan College, 1957; Th.M., Dallas  
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A veteran Bible professor, Dr. Hanna has taught at six institutions and served as president of two: Winnipeg Bible College and Theological Seminary (now Providence) and Bryan College. He served as vice-president and dean of education at Moody Bible Institute and has been a regular teacher on several online programs such as Radio School of the Bible and Bryan Life. He has had numerous articles published in periodicals and in the Christian Life Bible. His service and leadership have included many board chairmanships and presidencies, including the Association of Canadian Bible Colleges, the Evangelical Theological Society of Canada, and the Evangelical Pastors' Fellowship.

## **0 EXAMINE His Word**

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What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the passage.

### **Read Deuteronomy 8 (NET)**

<sup>1</sup> You must keep carefully all these commandments I am giving you today so that you may live, increase in number, and go in and occupy the land that the LORD promised to your ancestors.

<sup>2</sup> Remember the whole way by which he has brought you these forty years through the desert so that he might, by humbling you, test you to see if you have it within you to keep his commandments or not.

<sup>3</sup> So he humbled you by making you hungry and then feeding you with unfamiliar manna. He did this to teach you that humankind cannot live by bread alone, but also by everything that comes from the LORD's mouth.

<sup>4</sup> Your clothing did not wear out nor did your feet swell all these forty years.

<sup>5</sup> Be keenly aware that just as a parent disciplines his child, the LORD your God disciplines you.

<sup>6</sup> So you must keep his commandments, live according to his standards, and revere him.

<sup>7</sup> For the LORD your God is bringing you to a good land, a land of brooks, springs, and fountains flowing forth in valleys and hills,

<sup>8</sup> a land of wheat, barley, vines, fig trees, and pomegranates, of olive trees and honey,

<sup>9</sup> a land where you may eat food in plenty and find no lack of anything, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you can mine copper.

<sup>10</sup> You will eat your fill and then praise the LORD your God because of the good land he has given you.

<sup>11</sup> Be sure you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping his commandments, ordinances, and statutes that I am giving you today.

<sup>12</sup> When you eat your fill, when you build and occupy good houses,

<sup>13</sup> when your cattle and flocks increase, when you have plenty of silver and gold, and when you have abundance of everything,

<sup>14</sup> be sure you do not feel self-important and forget the LORD your God who brought you from the land of Egypt, the place of slavery,

<sup>15</sup> and who brought you through the great, fearful desert of venomous serpents and scorpions, an arid place with no water. He made water flow from a flint rock and

<sup>16</sup> fed you in the desert with manna (which your ancestors had never before known) so that he might by humbling you test you and eventually bring good to you.

<sup>17</sup> Be careful not to say, "My own ability and skill have gotten me this wealth."

<sup>18</sup> You must remember the LORD your God, for he is the one who gives ability to get wealth; if you do this he will confirm his covenant that he made by oath to your ancestors, even as he has to this day.

<sup>19</sup> Now if you forget the LORD your God at all and follow other gods, worshiping and prostrating yourselves before them, I testify to you today that you will surely be annihilated.

<sup>20</sup> Just like the nations the LORD is about to destroy from your sight, so he will do to you because you would not obey him.

## **EXPLORE His Word**

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### What does God MEAN?

1. What is your first thought (reaction or question) when you face a major illness or a traumatic event like the loss of a loved one, or your job, or your home?
2. What hardship or traumatic event have you experienced?
3. What did you discover or learn from that hardship?
4. How did that hardship affect or influence your relationship with God?
5. Did you know then (or do you know today) the reason for that event?

## ③ EMBRACE His Word

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Why does this MATTER to me?

### **Summarize your thoughts on the passage:**

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

## **SERMON NOTES**