

Sermon Notes Deuteronomy 8

7/8/2022

V. 1 The necessity to renew the Covenant with God before entering the promised land. Also the renewal of the Covenant relationship was a reminder that their survival and increase in numbers was dependent on God.

Vv. 2-5. The God who has shown His mercy and care for them during their journey in the wilderness. Along with His care God also disciplined His people. They were disobedient, complaining and dabbling in idolatry yet in His mercy God humbled them so they learnt that they needed to depend on Him. God's provision of manna was a reminder obedience to God's word is the foundation for healthy abundant living not just the availability of food.

Vv. 6-9. The new land which God would give them and which concurrently they had to fight for, would be good land which would enable them prosper, but also dangers.

Vv. 10-11. They are reminded to praise God for their prosperity, 'for the good land he has given you'.

Vv. 12-18. The promise of enjoying a prosperous life in the promised land carried with it real threats to their Covenant relationship with God. They would be tempted to forget that God had rescued their ancestors from slavery in Egypt and had provided for them in the wilderness. They would also be tempted to attribute their prosperity to their own exclusive power and strength. Instead, they should always acknowledge that it is God who enables them to prosper. Their prosperity will be a sign of God's faithfulness to His Covenant commitment to provide for them.

Vv. 19-20. There is a stark warning that if the people of Israel forget the Lord God, failing to praise and thank Him for His mercy and enabling, and turn to idolatry they face destruction. Their survival and prosperity depends on obedient praise and worship of God. This obedience is to be shown in commitment to obey God's 'word', His commands.

Reflection/Response. How do we remember and praise God for His past goodness to us? How do we avoid becoming proud by failing to acknowledge God's enabling? Responding to God's generosity by being generous. BB