

Last Words

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Deuteronomy 33

Proverbs 20:6, *Many a man proclaims his own steadfast love, but a faithful man who can find?*

Chapter 33 of Deuteronomy records Moses's last words to Israel as their leader. However, at the end of chapter 32, he is instructed to go to Mount Nebo, where he will meet the Lord in death. **Deuteronomy 32:48–52**, *That very day the Lord spoke to Moses, 49 “Go up this mountain of the Abarim, Mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, opposite Jericho, and view the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel for a possession. 50 And die on the mountain which you go up, and be gathered to your people, as Aaron your brother died in Mount Hor and was gathered to his people, 51 {God then reminds us why Moses will speak his last words without entering the promised land} because you broke faith with me in the midst of the people of Israel at the waters of Meribah-kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin, and because you did not treat me as holy in the midst of the people of Israel. 52 For you shall see the land before you, but you shall not go there, into the land that I am giving to the people of Israel.”*

I. God Loves You (Dt 33:1-5)

- A. The Reminder – Moses is the “*man of God*.” He speaks, as God instructs him, to Israel on behalf of God. **Deuteronomy 33:1**, *This is the blessing with which Moses the man of God blessed the people of Israel before his death.*
- B. The Event – God gave to Israel His Law
Deuteronomy 33:2, *He said, “The Lord came from Sinai and dawned from Seir upon us; he shone forth from Mount Paran; he came from the ten thousands of holy ones, with flaming fire at his right hand.*
 - 1. Mediated by angels (**Acts 7:53; Gal 3:19; Heb 2:2**)
- C. The Law - the giving of the law was a gift from God that demonstrates love to His people
Deuteronomy 33:3–4, *Yes, he loved his people, all his holy ones were in his hand; so they followed in your steps, receiving direction from you, 4 when Moses commanded us a law, as a possession for the assembly of Jacob.*
- D. The King - God becomes King in Israel to rule.
Deuteronomy 33:5, *Thus the Lord became king in Jeshurun, when the heads of the people were gathered, all the tribes of Israel together.*

II. God is For You (Dt 33:6-25)

- A. The blessings on Israel
 - 1. Rueben – granted life but limited because of the sin of Rueben (**Dt 33:6; Gen 35:22, Gen 49:3-4**)
 - 2. Judah – God will hear his voice and fight for him against his enemies (**Dt 33:7**)
 - 3. Levi – God made the Levites responsible for the priesthood (**Dt 33:8-11; Ex 32:25-29**)
 - 4. Benjamin – Beloved of God and will dwell in safety (**Dt 33:12**)
 - 5. Ephraim & Manasseh – Promise of material provision and military might (**Dt 33:13-17**)
 - 6. Zebulun & Issachar – Promise of material abundance from the sea (**Dt 33:18-19**)
 - 7. Gad & Dan & Naphtali – Military victory, abundance in favor (**Dt 33:20-23**)
 - 8. Asher – promised happiness and protection (**Dt 33:24-25**)
- B. The Blessing for today for believers
 - 1. **Ephesians 1:3**, *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, (Inclusive of our election, predestination, adoption, redemption, forgiveness, inheritance, and the gift of the Holy Spirit).*
 - 2. **Romans 8:31–32**, *What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?*

III. God is With You

- A. God is our unique rescuer
 - 1. **Deuteronomy 33:26**, *“There is none like God, O Jeshurun, who rides through the heavens to your help, through the skies in his majesty.*

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- B. God is your eternal dwelling place
 - 1. **Deuteronomy 33:27a**, *The eternal God is your dwelling place,*
 - 2. **Ephesians 2:22**, *In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.*
 - C. God is your unfailing support
 - 1. **Deuteronomy 33:27b** *and underneath are the everlasting arms.*
 - D. God is our unbreachable security
 - 1. **Deuteronomy 33:27c–28**, *And he thrust out the enemy before you and said, ‘Destroy.’ 28 So Israel lived in safety, Jacob lived alone, in a land of grain and wine, whose heavens drop down dew.*
 - E. God is your unexpected happiness
 - 1. **Deuteronomy 33:29a**, *Happy are you, O Israel!*
 - 2. **Ephesians 2:4–6**, *But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,*
 - F. God is your shield of help
 - 1. **Deuteronomy 33:29b**, *Who is like you, a people saved by the Lord, the shield of your help,*
 - G. God is your sword of triumph (**Dt 33:29**)
 - 1. **Deuteronomy 33:29c**, *The sword of your triumph! Your enemies shall come fawning to you, and you shall tread upon their backs.”*

IV. The Greatest Blessing

- A. God loves His children – He cares perfectly for their well-being (**Romans 8:28**)
- B. God is sincere with His children – He tells the truth, every time He speaks (**Hebrews 6:18**)
- C. God is faithful to His children – He is reliable as a help in time of trouble (**2 Corinthians 1:20**).
- D. God is able – He is competent to solve any problem and work out any detail (**Ephesians 3:20-21**).