

## A NEW LEADER

Overview of Deuteronomy, Deuteronomy 34, Joshua 1, Joshua 2: 1-16

The book of Deuteronomy is a wonderful book. In it the Lord reminds the children of Israel of how he delivered them from the slavery of Egypt and brought them along the way. He reminds them of the commands that he has given, and of the curse that will come upon them if they reject the truth. In Deuteronomy 2:7 the Lord says, For the Lord thy God hath blessed thee in all the works of thy hand: he knoweth thy walking through this great wilderness: these forty years the Lord thy God hath been with thee; thou hast lacked nothing.

God warns the people of the danger of not obeying him in the matter of completely destroying their enemies in the land. He reminds them that they are to have no graven images or any likeness of anything to worship instead of him. For he says, the Lord thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God. In the same chapter God says, For the Lord thy God is a merciful God: he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them. And also, the Lord he is God; there is none else beside him. He is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.

Deuteronomy is a book that teaches us much about God, and his character. It is much more than just a book of laws that the Lord gave to the nation of Israel. In it the Lord gives instruction to the people to love him with all their hearts, and to teach their children all that he has taught them. Thousands of years later, today, that same instruction is given to us who know him.

In deuteronomy commands for feast and festivals are given, along with direction for relationships between people. The Lord tells his people how he wants them to worship him, and he reminds them that he will send the Messiah.

Finally, at the end of the book, Moses gives a charge to the people and tells them that the Lord will go before them into the land, and that he will not forsake them. Moses speaks sadly of the time when the children of Israel will turn away from their God and the Lord will have to judge them.

At the end of the book Moses takes his leave. He goes up into the mountain to die. The Bible tells us that when Moses died he was one hundred twenty years old., but his vision was still clear, and he was still as strong as a young man, for the Lord had kept him youthful in ability so that he might lead the people through their long years in the wilderness. What an amazing God we serve, who is able to stop time and aging if he so chooses.

Moses died up on the mountain alone, and the Lord buried him so that no man could ever make a shrine of his burial place. For it seems that men are always willing to worship a man rather than the Lord God who made that man and gave him all his talents and abilities.

After the death of Moses, the Lord spoke to Joshua, Moses' servant and said, "Moses my servant is dead, now rise up and go over this Jordan river, you and all the people, into the land which I give to the children of Israel. Every place that the your feet step on have I given to you. No man will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses so I will be with you. Be strong and of good courage, for you will divide the inheritance of the land for these people. The book of the law which I have given shall never be apart from you. You shall meditate on it day and night, then I will make your way prosperous as you go. Don't be afraid nor worried. I will be with you wherever you go."

Then Joshua commanded his officers to tell the people to prepare food for in three days they would pass over the river into the land which God had promised.

The people replied that they would do all that Joshua commanded and obey him as they had obeyed Moses. They said that whoever would not obey Joshua should be put to death.

Joshua sent out two spies into the land, to Jericho. They went into the city and came to the house of a woman named Rahab. The king of that city heard that there were spies from Israel in his city and that they had come to Rahab's house. He sent his soldiers to get them, but Rahab hid the two men on the roof of her house under some stalks of flax. Then she told the king's soldiers that the men had left the city.

After the soldiers were gone and it was safe, Rahab let the two men down out of a window in her house, for she lived on the city wall. She told the men to hide in the hills for three days until it was safe for them to return to their camp. Rahab told the spies that all the land feared the Israelites, so that their spirits were made weak. She said, "The Lord your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath." Rahab asked the men to promise that when they took the city of Jericho that they would save her and her family.

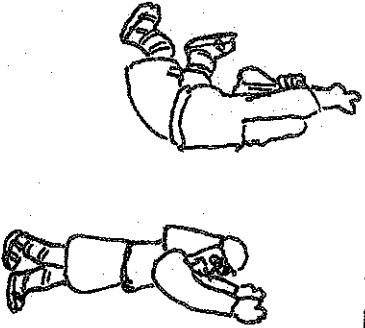
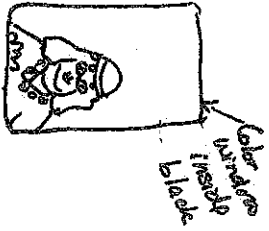
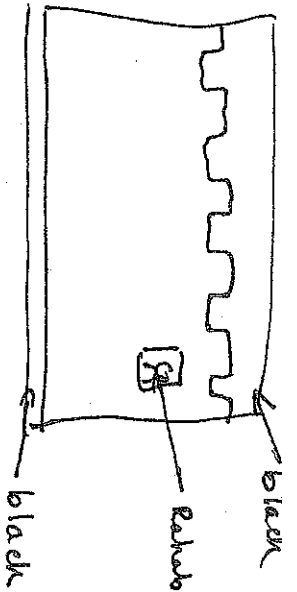
Rahab, a woman of bad reputation, heard of the Lord God and she believed in him. She put her faith and trust in God and his people, and gave up the life that she had known. What a great God we serve who is able to change the heart and open the eyes, so that these who were once his enemies, become his followers and are willing to risk all to

obey him. For the thing that Rahab did in helping the spies, was very dangerous for her. If the king had found out it would surely have cost her her life, and the lives of her family.

LEARN: Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee withersoever thou goest.

Joshua 1:9

1. Use your brown paper to cut a wall -  
It should cover most of the black background.
2. Paste the wall on the right (black) leaving about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " -  $\frac{1}{2}$ " on bottom of black showing.
3. Color the people - the window behind Rahab should be black. - Paste on wall as shown - near top and to right side.
4. Poke hole through paper near her head.
5. Tape one man's red rope, so he can be moved up & down.
6. Paste other man at bottom of wall on the black ground directly below window so rope can go through his hands.
7. Tell story.



There is a large...  
John...  
Excellent...  
The...  
even...  
© 1981...  
1981...  
1981...

