

Numbers and Deuteronomy

Nov 13, 2022

Numbers:

Summary: After receiving the Law, as seen in Exodus and Leviticus, and being numbered at Mount Sinai the old generation came to Kadesh Barnea, the gateway to the promised land. There they rejected through unbelief the land promised to them in the Abrahamic Covenant. Because of the sin of unbelief they were caused to wander and perish in the wilderness, and thus knowing God's breach of promise. In faithfulness to His Covenant, God raised up a new believing generation to prepare them for entering into the land.

Christ seen as:

"The Smitten Rock" (Num 20)

Num 20:8 "Take the rod; and you and your brother Aaron assemble the congregation and speak to the rock before their eyes, that it may yield its water. You shall thus bring forth water for them out of the rock and let the congregation and their beasts drink."

Num 20:11 Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came forth abundantly, and the congregation and their beasts drank.

1Cor 10:4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ.

Our sanctuary in the wilderness

Ezk 11:16 "Therefore say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Though I had removed them far away among the nations and though I had scattered them among the countries, yet I was a sanctuary for them a little while in the countries where they had gone."'

Jn 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt (tabernacled) among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The bronze serpent

Num 21:8-9 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a standard; and it shall come about, that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, he will live." 9 And Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on the standard; and it came about, that if a serpent bit any man, when he looked to the bronze serpent, he lived.

Jn 3:14-15 "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; 15 so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.

The "Star of Jacob" – Messiah would be a King

Num 24:17 "I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near; A star shall come forth from Jacob, A scepter shall rise from Israel, And shall crush through the forehead of Moab,

Mt 2:2 "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him."

Cities of Refuge – The Old Testament cities of refuge were a type of Christ.

In the Mosaic Law, the Lord set aside six cities of refuge for people to run to when they had committed murder, whether by accident or on purpose. God had initiated the law of capital punishment for murder (Gen 9:6). Now He allowed those who were accused of murder to flee to the cities of refuge to escape the avenger of blood (usually a family member) and to have a fair trial.

Num 35:6 And they must stand as your towns of refuge from the avenger in order that the killer may not die until he has stood trial before the community.

Num 35:12 'The cities shall be to you as a refuge from the avenger, so that the manslayer will not die until he stands before the congregation for trial.

The writer of Hebrews indicates that Christ is a type of "city of refuge." (Heb 6:18-20)

Heb 6:18 so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.

Deuteronomy:

Summary: Deuteronomy is a review of the past with an eye to the future. It involves Israel's relationship to the Abrahamic, Mosaic, and Palestinian Covenants. The generation that had come out of Egypt had rejected the land as promised in the Abrahamic Covenant and died in the wilderness. Now the new generation coming out of the wilderness into that land is given the conditions of obtaining and maintaining it in the Mosaic and Palestinian Covenants.

Christ seen:

The true faithful Prophet (like Moses)

Dt 18:15-19 "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, you shall listen to him. 16 "This is according to all that you asked of the LORD your God in Horeb on the day of the assembly, saying, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, let me not see this great fire anymore, or I will die.' 17 "The LORD said to me, 'They have spoken well. 18 'I will raise up a prophet from among their countrymen like you, and I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. 19 'It shall come about that whoever will not listen to My words which he shall speak in My name, I Myself will require it of him.

Ac 3:22 "Moses said, 'THE LORD GOD WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR BRETHREN; TO HIM YOU SHALL GIVE HEED to everything He says to you.

Jn 6:14 Therefore when the people saw the sign which He had performed, they said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

Our Rock

Dt 32:4 "The Rock! His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He.

Dt 32:18 "You neglected the Rock who begot you, And forgot the God who gave you birth.

Dt 32:31 31 "Indeed their rock is not like our Rock, Even our enemies themselves judge this.

1Cor 10:4 for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ.

Typified in the cities of refuge

Dt 4:41-42 Then Moses set apart three cities across the Jordan to the east, 42 that a manslayer might flee there, who unintentionally slew his neighbor without having enmity toward him in time past; and by fleeing to one of these cities he might live:

Heb 6:18 so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.

Deuteronomy prophesies how Jesus would die and the length of time he would remain on the cross.

Dt 21:22-23 says that God cursed any man executed for breaking one of God's commands. His body hanging on a pole was a public display of judgment.

Jesus took on this curse for all of humanity when he died on the "cross"

1Pt 2:24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, ...

Gal 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, “CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE”—

Dt 21:23 commanded that the offender’s body is not to be left on the pole overnight.
The body of Jesus was taken down before nightfall (Mt 27:57 Mk 15:42).

Deuteronomy is quoted 90 times in the New Testament, more than any other book.

Jesus and the book of Deuteronomy:

Jesus quoted the book of Deuteronomy more than any other book in the Old Testament.

Jesus used the book of Deuteronomy in his own life more than any other book in the Old Testament.

Example: Jesus used Dt against the devil in His temptations in the wilderness (Lk 4:1-13).

Paul drew on Deuteronomy to teach:

The law reveals sin [Rom 7:7; Dt 31:14-21, 29; 32:15]

Righteousness is by faith [Rom 10:6-8, 19; Dt 30:12-14]

Circumcision of the heart [Rom 2:29; Dt 10:12; 30:6]

Loving your neighbor as yourself [Rom. 13:9; Dt 5:17-19, 21]

We are not to seek personal revenge [Rom 12:19; Dt 32:35]