

A Torah Study Guide
for the Young
& Young at Heart

by
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& his kids

PARASHAT
KI TAVO

פרשת כי תבוא

Deuteronomy
26:1-29:8

Note to the adult teacher: It will be necessary for you to give the scriptural context and background for each of the points listed below.

Great Discoveries in This Week's Parashah (Torah Portion)

- 26:1 First Fruits of the Harvest Belong to YHVH
- 26:12 Confession Over the Tithes
- 26:16 An Intimate Relationship Between YHVH and His People Based on Obedience
- 27:1 The New Generation of Israelites Commits to Serve YHVH
- 27:11 Blessings to Be Pronounced from Mount Gerizim and Curses from Mount Ebal
- 28:3 The Blessings for Fulfilling YHVH's Torah Commandments
- 28:15 The Curses for Disobeying YHVH's Torah Commandments
- 29:1 Moses' Final Charge to the People: Obey YHVH and Be Blessed in All That You Do

Exploring This Week's Parashah:

1 Deuteronomy 28: One Chapter Devoted to Two Words

YHVH takes an entire chapter to explain what happens when we **obey** or **disobey** him; there he explains the **blessings** and the **curses**. Blessings and curses upon our lives are real and are the direct result of what we do whether good or bad.

Notice that the blessings come before the curses. This is to show us that YHVH wants to see his people blessed and not cursed, for he is a loving, gracious and merciful Father. Like any good parent, he wants his children to be blessed and to prosper. But also like a good parent, YHVH knows that the only way that some naughty and rebellious children will learn is by the "school of hard knocks"—they have to learn the hard way. Sometimes when we disobey YHVH and bad things happen to us, in reality, these bad things can be good for us in that they cause us to repent of our sinful ways, turn away from evil and to come back to YHVH so that we can once again receive his blessings.

 (a) On what condition will YHVH bless his children? (Look at Deuteronomy 28:1.)

 (b) What does it mean to "diligently listen to the voice of YHVH"? What is his voice?

When did the Israelites hear YHVH's voice? (Explore Deuteronomy 18:16 and Exodus 20:19.) What are the commandments that he commanded us to guard or make certain that we do?

 (c) What will be the end result of our obeying him? (Read the last sentence of verse 1.)



Pursue first the physical rewards for here and now and die as a sinner ...

Do you want to be at the highest place (spiritually) of any other people on the earth? What does this really mean? Does this mean that YHVH's people will be the richest and the most powerful people on earth physically? Or does it mean

that by being at the highest place on earth spiritually and in their relationship to our Father in heaven that they will be the closest people to heaven, for they will be the most like YHVH in what they do, how they live, what they say and think? Will those who are the closest to YHVH perhaps be in his eternal (forever) kingdom and family and live forever with him? What is this worth? Is it worth more than all the riches and power in the world to live forever with YHVH in the New Jerusalem?



... or pursue spiritual rewards in the world to come and live FOREVER?
It's your choice!

2 The Good News: There Are Two Types of Blessings

The Bible talks about two types of blessings. One comes as a result of obeying YHVH's commandments; the other comes as a result of putting our faith in Yeshua the Messiah.

 (d) When we put our trust in Yeshua, what type of blessing comes to us? (See John 3:15-16; 5:24; Revelation 20:6; 21:1-6.) These blessings are spiritual in nature and have to do with eternal life in YHVH's heavenly kingdom.

 (e) When we obey YHVH's Torah-commandments, what blessings will come to us? (Examine Deuteronomy 28:2-14 and make a quick list of all the blessings you find in these verses.) These blessings are earthly ones and come upon us during our physical life here on this earth.

Now there is, in a sense, a third category of blessings, but in reality it is only a combination of the previous two blessings: physical and spiritual blessings together. Those people who will be the most blessed of all will obtain earthly blessings during their physical lifetimes, AND they will ALSO obtain spiritual blessings or rewards for having faith in Yeshua. It is true that faith in Yeshua will definitely bring blessings to one's life here and now, but the main blessing is eternal or everlasting life.

 (f) Wouldn't it be great to live a life that combines receiving both blessings: blessings in this life and in the next life? Let's explore this neat concept a little. Read Matthew 5:19 where YHVH talks about two levels of rewards in his spiritual kingdom. What are these two levels? What does one have to do to become least and the

greatest in his kingdom?

-  (g) What will YHVH's people be doing in order to be called the saints of YHVH? (Look at Revelation 12:17 and 14:12, then turn to Revelation 22:12-14.)

You see, our salvation cannot be earned by our good works. (Read Ephesians 2:8-9.) But the Scriptures we have just read show that our good works (or obedience to YHVH's commandments, or his Torah) will determine our level of rewards in his spiritual or heavenly kingdom, for good works are the results or the fruits of our faith in Yeshua. (Look at Ephesians 2:10.) We obey his commandments because we love him and because we love our fellow man and want to be like Yeshua who is our pattern to follow. (See John 14:15 and 1John 2:3-10.)

Hopefully, you can see that there are blessings and rewards to following YHVH that come to us during our physical lives, as well as in the next life.

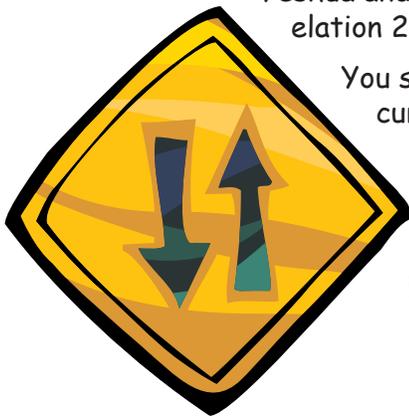
The blessings listed in Deuteronomy 28 are blessings that have to do with our physical lives here on this earth.

3 Now For the Bad News

If there is good news, there is usually some bad news. The good news is that if you obey YHVH's voice by diligently listening to him and doing what he said to do in his Word/the Torah to live a righteous life, **there will be no bad news for you!**

-  (h) However, what happens to those who refuse to listen to and obey YHVH's voice? (Read Deuteronomy 28:15-68.) These verses contain a list of some pretty bad things that will happen. Read these verses and make a list of the 10 worst things on the list that could happen to you in this life if you choose to turn your back on YHVH.

-  (i) What are the curses that will come on a person who refuses to place their faith in Yeshua and to repent of (turn away from) their sins? (Note John 3:18-21; Revelation 20:11-15.)



You have two choices:
life or death.

You see, how we end up in this life and the next life—whether blessed or cursed—is based on the choices we make TODAY, in this life. No one else can make the choice for us to obey or disobey YHVH, to have faith in Yeshua or not to have faith in him. It is up to each of us to make the right choice, and then to stick with that choice to follow YHVH for the rest of our lives. What choice will you make: blessings or curses? The choice is yours. (Read Deuteronomy 30:19.)

