



+ Deuteronomy +

(29:9-29 and 30:1-20)

*Moses speaking
to the Children of Israel*

Carefully follow the terms of this covenant, so that you may prosper in everything you do.

All of you are standing today in the presence of YHVH your GOD--your leaders and chief men, your elders and officials, and all the other men of Israel, together with your children and your wives, and the aliens living in your camps who chop your wood and carry your water.

You are standing here in order to enter into a Covenant with YHVH your GOD, a Covenant YHVH is making with you this day and sealing with an oath, to confirm you this day as His People, that He may be your GOD as He promised you and as He swore to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

I am making this Covenant, with its oath, not only with you who are standing here with us today in the presence of YHVH our GOD but also with those who are not here today.

You yourselves know how we lived in Egypt and how we passed through the countries on the way here.

You saw among them their detestable images and idols of wood and stone, of silver and gold.

Make sure there is no man or woman, clan or tribe among you today whose heart turns away from YHVH our GOD to go and worship the gods of those nations; make sure there is no root among you that produces such bitter poison.

When such a person hears the words of this oath, he invokes a blessing on himself and therefore thinks, "***I will be safe, even though I persist in going my own way.***" This will bring disaster on the watered land as well as the dry.

YHVH will never be willing to forgive him; His wrath and zeal will burn against that man. All the curses written in this book will fall upon him, and YHVH will blot out his name from under heaven.

YHVH will single him out from all the tribes of Israel for disaster, according to all the curses of the covenant written in this Book of the Law.

Your children who follow you in later generations and foreigners who come from distant lands will see the calamities that have fallen on the land and the diseases with which YHVH has afflicted it.