May 31-June 6, 2021

OUR CHRISTIAN LIFE AND MINISTRY MEETING WORKBOOK

Assigned chapters: **DEUTERONOMY 1-2**

PLEASE NOTE - The references below are taken from the 86-21 Index. Many verses have additional references that have not been included due to time & space. We are encouraged to do additional personal research.

(Deuteronomy 1:2) 2 It is 11 days from Hor'eb to Ka'desh-bar'ne a by way of Mount Se'ir. . .

*** w04 9/15 p. 25 par. 4 Highlights From the Book of Deuteronomy ***

1:2, 19. The sons of Israel wandered through the wilderness for some 38 years, even though Kadesh-barnea was only "eleven days from Horeb [the mountainous region around Mount Sinai where the Ten Commandments were given] by the way of Mount Seir." What a price to pay for disobeying Jehovah God!—Numbers 14:26-34.

(Deuteronomy 1:13) 13 Select wise, discreet, and experienced men of your tribes, and I will appoint them as heads over you.'

*** w00 10/1 p. 32 Are You Discreet? ***

IN APPOINTING judges over Israel, Moses strove to find "wise and discreet and experienced men." (Deuteronomy 1:13) Experience, which came with age, was not the sole criterion. Wisdom and discretion were also important.

A person who is discreet shows good judgment in speech and in conduct. According to Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, the discreet person is also "capable of preserving prudent silence." Yes, there is "a time to speak," and there is "a time to keep quiet," and the discreet person appreciates the difference. (Ecclesiastes 3:7) Often, there is good reason to keep silent, for the Bible states: "In the abundance of words there does not fail to be transgression, but the one keeping his lips in check is acting discreetly."—Proverbs 10:19.

(Deuteronomy 1:28) 28 What kind of place are we going to? Our brothers made us lose heart by saying, "They are a people greater and taller than we are, and their cities are great and fortified to the heavens, and we saw the sons of the An'a kim there."

*** w13 8/15 p. 11 par. 7 Never Become "Enraged Against Jehovah" ***

7 The negative speech of others can influence us. (Read Deuteronomy 1:26-28.) The Israelites had just been delivered from slavery in Egypt. Jehovah had miraculously brought ten plagues on that oppressive nation and thereafter destroyed Pharaoh and his military force in the Red Sea. (Ex. 12:29-32, 51; 14:29-31; Ps. 136:15) God's people were poised to enter the Promised Land. Yet, at that crucial moment, the Israelites started to complain about Jehovah. What caused this lack of faith? Their hearts melted because of the negative report of some who had been sent to spy out the land. (Num. 14:1-4) What resulted? A whole generation was not allowed to enter into that "good land." (Deut. 1:34, 35) Could we at times allow the negative speech of others to weaken our faith and cause us to grumble about Jehovah's dealings with us?

(Deuteronomy 2:7) 7 For Jehovah your God has blessed you in all that you have done. He is fully aware of your walking through this great wilderness. These 40 years Jehovah your God has been with you, and you have lacked nothing."

*** w21 February p. 6 par. 16 "The Head of Every Man Is the Christ" ***

16 Provide for his family's material needs. Jehovah cared for the basic needs of the Israelites even while they were being punished for disobedience. (Deut. 2:7; 29:5) He also provides for our basic needs today. (Matt. 6:31-33; 7:11) Likewise, Jesus fed those who followed him. (Matt. 14:17-20) He also cared for their physical health. (Matt. 4:24) To please Jehovah, a family head must provide materially for his family. However, he needs to maintain the right balance. He should not become so involved in secular work to support his family that he fails to care properly for his family's spiritual and emotional needs.