



Deuteronomy 8 ...go in and possess the land which the LORD has given you.

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## Text | Deuteronomy 8

### Israel's entry into the Promised Land

1. After their 40-year wandering, Israel enters the Promised land by crossing the Jordan River at it's highest level. (Joshua 3:5-17)
  - Memorial stones gathered from the Jordan. (Joshua 4:1-18)
2. After the former generation died in the wilderness, Israel renews their covenant with God through circumcision. (Joshua 5:1-9) God wanted Israel to enter the battle *established in His Covenant*, not in their own strength.
  - God's Covenant through Abraham. (Genesis 17:10-14)
  - True circumcision is of the heart. (Romans 2:28-29, Philippians 3:3)
  - God wanted to "roll away the reproach of Egypt," all their sin, guilt, failures, and connection with the past 40 years. (Joshua 5:8-9)
3. God gave Israel the (unique) battle plan: march around Jericho 6 times. The 7th time march around the city 7 times, then blow the shofars. And the walls came down! (Joshua 6:1-5, 12-21)
  - God's strategy is not like the one we would choose. David had to wait to attack the enemy until he heard the rustling of the leaves in the Mulberry trees. (1 Chronicles 14:14-16)
  - How does God lead you? Has He ever asked you to do something you thought was out of the ordinary?
4. in Deuteronomy 8 God gave Israel specific instructions as they entered the Promised Land. ([Click here to read Deuteronomy 8](#))
  - The reasons for difficulties during the wilderness wandering. (1-5)
  - God's Promised Land was a land of great blessing. (6-10) However, the giants who inhabited the land had to be dislodged! (Deuteronomy 6:18-19)
  - In the same way that Israel trusted God's power and provision, so they were to trust Him in the Promised Land and resist the temptation to think their ability

created all their blessings. (11-20)

- Joshua 21:43 *So the LORD gave all of the land to Israel that he had promised...*

### **Making it personal for 2023**

God wants to “roll away the reproach” of the previous years (sickness, covid lockdowns, fear, anxiety, panic, loss, etc.), and to bless you with new opportunities to join Him in what He’s doing through the Kingdom. Here are a few ways...

1. Overcome all that our enemy has done (and is doing) with good. (Romans 12:21)
  - Examples: Bless our “enemies,” Matthew 5:43-45; Give thanks in all situations, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. Can you think of other ways?
2. Rely on, trust in God’s power, timing, and particular way of bringing about the fulfillment of His promise.
  - Philippians 3:3 *For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh...* (Romans 2:28-29)
3. When we are faced with failure, get up and continue without condemnation. (Romans 8:1) Do not pretend in God’s Presence.
  - Pride pretends perfection (Saul). Genuine failure is followed with true repentance and thanksgiving (David).
4. Develop the victorious warrior attitude. (Ephesians 6:10-18)
  - Believe that Jesus has *already won the battle* against the enemy. (1 Samuel 17:34-37, 45-47)
  - Make your heart and words *agree* with the words you read in the Bible. (Romans 10:9-10)
  - Believe that God’s promises of victory are *actually yours*. (John 16:33; 1 John 5:4)
  - Allow God’s Word to *transform your thinking* and your actions. (Romans 12:1-2)
  - Assist others in their spiritual freedom. (Mark 5:1-20)

*Have a blessed 2023!*