

Deuteronomy

God's words after crisis

True or false? God tempts us.

True or false? God tests us.

Is there a difference between the two? If so, what is it?

Deuteronomy follows the crisis of the forty years of wandering (and dying) in the desert.

God through Moses speaks to the new generation about to enter the promised land.

The "Ten Words" were repeated in chapter 5.

The first and greatest commandment was emphasized in chapter 6.

Chapter 8 gives insights into why God led the people in the desert the way he did.

Let's read Deuteronomy 8:1-5.

In verse 2 note the purposes why God led them through the desert the way he did.

God brings his people into great need (even crisis!) and then fills the need.

How did he do that with Israel in the desert?

Why does he do that?

Let's review the story of manna.

a month after the exodus —

over a year after the exodus —

40 years after the exodus —

Feeding you with manna, *which neither you nor your fathers had known...*

Why is that an important description of manna?

What was the lesson God was teaching Israel through manna?

Which one of the following do you think best describes what that lesson is? Why?

- a) Our souls are more important than our bodies.

- b) Reading God's Word is more important than eating food.

- c) Everything depends on what God says.

Let's look at how Jesus used this verse. See Matthew 4:1-4.

Why did Jesus use that passage to counter the devil's temptation?

Why is verse 5 so foundational for understanding God's relationship with us?

Read Hebrews 12:5-11. What does it teach you about God's discipline?

Let's read Deuteronomy 8:6-18.

Contrast where they came from with where they are going.

What warning does every one of God's people need to hear?

According to verse 16, what does God have in view?

What does a proud heart say to itself?

What does a humble heart remember and understand?

Let's read Deuteronomy 8:19-20.

Why does God speak this way?

God uses crises to humble us and discipline us because he loves us.

In crisis God is looking ahead.

Accept the LORD's discipline!