**God Speaks to Empower Perseverance**

(Deut. 29:1-29)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. (vv. 1-9) What specific things does Moses recall in order to urge the people to pursue the Lord with fervency and love? Why does he do this? Compare verses 2&3 with verse 4 – what is sadly ironic about the play on words? What needed to happen to the people for God’s acts of redemption to have their intended effect(s)? In what way(s) does 2 Peter 1:3-11 illustrate both the necessity of being born again as well as the call to remember and relish God’s grace in the life of the Christian? How often does your own testimony of God’s grace factor into your present fight against unbelief?
2. (vv. 10-15) Who is in need of renewing their commitment to God in this passage? Why is this significant? How does this passage point to the importance of urging our little ones to pursue God and turn from sin? Read Hebrews 3:12-14 and answer the following questions: In what way(s) does this passage parallel our passage in Deuteronomy? What does the author of Hebrews reveal about both personal responsibility and corporate concern? What is at stake? In what practical, loving ways are you fighting for the perseverance of your brothers and sisters in Christ?
3. (vv. 16-19a) In your own words, explain Moses’ argument in this passage. What does verse 19 reveal about the heart condition of those within the community of God’s people who are stirring up rebellion and harming others’ faith? Read the following passages and explain how Christians are to react to persistently sinful and rebellious professors of faith: 1 Corinthians 5:9-13, Ephesians 5:1-14, Titus 3:10-11, Revelation 2:18-29.
4. (vv. 19b-28) In your own words, explain what Moses is warning the people of and how God is determined to respond to it. Why is it both just and righteous for God to respond in such a way? What effect should such dire warnings have had on the community of faith in Moses’ day? What place do warnings play in the life of modern-day Christians? In your own words, explain the relationship between God’s sovereign choosing and preservation of his people (Rom. 8:28-30) and the call to heed the New Testament’s warnings against unbelief and rebellion (1 Cor. 15:1-2)? What effect have the warnings of Scripture had in your life as a Christian?
5. (v. 29) In your own words, paraphrase what Moses is saying in this verse. What “secret things” was Moses referring to? What had God already revealed to his people that they were to obey? For the Christian, what things have been revealed to us that we are to know, trust, and obey? What “secret things” have been revealed for us to believe and rejoice in (see Jn. 1:18, Rom. 8:28-39)? Describe a time in your life when your faith nearly failed because of strife, confusion, pain, suffering, etc. How did the revealed promises of God carry you through?