Here is a **deep-research "People, Places, and Things" study of the Book of Deuteronomy**, designed for serious Bible study, teaching, or sermon preparation—similar in depth to the Genesis, Job, and Numbers studies you've been working through.

□□ Deuteronomy — Deep Research Study

Theme: Covenant renewal, obedience, and preparation to enter the Promised Land
Speaker: Moses' final sermons before his death
Setting: Plains of Moab, just east of the Jordan River

□□ PEOPLE IN DEUTERONOMY

Central Figures

Moses

- Author and primary speaker (Deut 1–34)
- Acts as:
  - Lawgiver
  - Prophet
  - Intercessor
  - Covenant mediator
- Gives three major farewell sermons and dies before entering the land.

Joshua

- Moses' successor (Deut 31:7–8, 34:9)
- Commissioned publicly to lead Israel into Canaan.

The New Generation of Israel

- The original Exodus generation has died in the wilderness.
- Deuteronomy addresses their children—the ones who will actually inherit the land.

God (YHWH)

The most frequently referenced figure in Deuteronomy.
Titles used:

- **The LORD your God**
- **A consuming fire** (Deut 4:24)
- **Jealous God**
- **Faithful covenant keeper**

Deuteronomy emphasizes:

- God's uniqueness
- His covenant love (**hesed**)
- His demand for exclusive worship

Foreign Peoples Mentioned

Nations Israel Must Confront

- **Canaanites**
- **Amorites**
- **Hittites**
- **Perizzites**
- **Hivites**
- **Jebusites**

These nations are condemned for:

- Idolatry
- Child sacrifice
- Sexual perversion
  (Deut 12, 18, 20)

Historical Figures Recalled

Deuteronomy repeatedly retells earlier events and mentions:

- **Pharaoh** – oppression in Egypt
- **Sihon** – king of the Amorites defeated by Israel
- **Og** – king of Bashan, one of the last Rephaim giants

□□ PLACES IN DEUTERONOMY

Primary Setting

Plains of Moab

Location:

- East of the Jordan River
- Across from Jericho

This is where:

- Moses gives his farewell speeches
- The covenant is renewed
- Moses dies

Key Geographic References

Horeb (Mount Sinai)

- Place where the Law was originally given
- Deuteronomy frequently calls Sinai “Horeb”

Kadesh-Barnea

- Site of Israel’s rebellion and refusal to enter Canaan
- Turning point that led to 40 years of wandering

Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim

Mountains where:
- Blessings and curses would be proclaimed (Deut 27)

These locations become central later in Joshua 8.

The Promised Land

Described as:

> “a land flowing with milk and honey”

Includes regions:
Hill country
- Jordan Valley
- Negev desert

God promises:

- Houses Israel didn’t build
- Vineyards they didn’t plant

□□ THINGS IN DEUTERONOMY

The Book of the Law

Moses commands:
- The Law must be written down
- It must be read publicly every seven years (Deut 31)

This is one of the earliest references to:

Written Scripture as covenant authority

The Ark of the Covenant

- Symbol of God’s presence
- Contains:
  - Tablets of the Law
- Carried by Levites

Stone Tablets

Recounting:
- The first tablets broken
- The second set rewritten (Deut 10)

Symbolism:

- Covenant broken and restored

Altars and High Places

God commands:
- Destroy pagan altars
- Worship only at the place He chooses (future Jerusalem)

This centralization of worship becomes a major theme in later books (Kings, Chronicles).

□□ STRUCTURE OF DEUTERONOMY

Sermon 1 – Historical Review (Deuteronomy 1–4)

Moses recounts:
- Sinai
- Spies
- Wilderness wanderings
- Victories over Sihon and Og

Purpose:
To remind Israel why obedience matters.

Sermon 2 – The Law Explained (Deuteronomy 5–26)

Includes:
- Repetition of the Ten Commandments
- Expanded laws on:
  - Worship
  - Civil justice
  - Family life
  - Kingship
  - Prophets

This is the **core legal section** of Deuteronomy.

Sermon 3 – Blessings and Curses (Deuteronomy 27–30)

Israel must choose:

> “I have set before you life and death… therefore choose life.” (Deut 30:19)

Final Events (Deuteronomy 31–34)

- Joshua installed
- Song of Moses
- Blessing of tribes
- Death of Moses on Mount Nebo

□□ KEY THEMES

Covenant Renewal

Deuteronomy is essentially:

A covenant renewal ceremony

Similar to ancient Near Eastern treaties.
Structure parallels:
1. Historical prologue
2. Stipulations
3. Blessings and curses
4. Witnesses
5. Document deposition

Love and Obedience

Deuteronomy is the first biblical book to command:

> “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart…” (Deut 6:5)

This becomes:
Central in Judaism
- Quoted by **Jesus** as the greatest commandment

Exclusive Worship

Repeated command:
- Destroy idols
- Avoid syncretism
- Worship only YHWH

□ THE SHEMA — CENTRAL DECLARATION

Deuteronomy 6:4–5:

> “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one…”

This becomes:
The most important prayer in Judaism
- Recited daily

□□ MESSIANIC AND PROPHETIC ELEMENTS

The Prophet Like Moses

Deuteronomy 18:15:

> “The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me…”

Later applied to:
Jesus in Acts 3:22

This is one of the strongest Messianic prophecies in the Torah.

Blessings and Curses as Prophetic History

Deuteronomy 28 predicts:
- Exile
- Siege warfare
- Scattering among nations

These events later occur in:

- Assyrian conquest (722 BC)
- Babylonian exile (586 BC)

□□ DEATH OF MOSES

Mount Nebo

Moses:
- Views the Promised Land
- Dies at 120 years old
- Buried by God in an unknown grave

This prevents:

- Israel turning his tomb into a shrine

□□ TRIBES BLESSED IN DEUTERONOMY 33

Moses gives prophetic blessings over:
- Reuben
- Judah
- Levi
- Joseph (Ephraim & Manasseh)
- Benjamin
- Zebulun
- Issachar
- Gad
- Dan
- Naphtali
- Asher

Notably:

- Simeon is omitted

□□ WHY DEUTERONOMY MATTERS THEOLOGICALLY

Deuteronomy is quoted:
- Over **80 times** in the New Testament.

Jesus quotes it when:

- Resisting Satan in the wilderness (Matthew 4)

This shows:

Deuteronomy is the most quoted Torah book by Jesus.

□□ KEY STUDY INSIGHTS

Deuteronomy as Moses’ Final Sermon

Tone:
- Urgent
- Emotional
- Fatherly

He knows:

- Israel will fail
- But still calls them to choose life

Deuteronomy as the Foundation of Later Israelite Theology

Books shaped by Deuteronomy:

- Joshua
- Judges
- Samuel
- Kings

This is called:

The Deuteronomistic History

If you'd like, I can also provide:

- A **chapter-by-chapter deep research breakdown**
- A **map of every location mentioned in Deuteronomy**
- Or a **full list of every law categorized by topic (civil, ceremonial, moral)**

A chapter-by-chapter deep research breakdown A map of every location mentioned in Deuteronomy Or a full list of every law categorized by topic (civil, ceremonial, moral)

Great—these three together form one of the most complete ways to study Deuteronomy deeply. Below is a **scholarly, structured deep-research expansion** covering:

1. **Chapter-by-chapter breakdown**

2. **All locations mentioned in Deuteronomy**

3. **Complete law categorization (civil, ceremonial, moral)**

You can use this like a commentary, study guide, or sermon framework. □□

1□ DEUTERONOMY — CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER DEEP RESEARCH

Deuteronomy 1–4 — Historical Prologue

Deuteronomy 1

- Setting: Plains of Moab
- Moses recounts:
  - Appointment of judges
  - The spies sent to Canaan
  - Israel's rebellion at Kadesh-Barnea

Key theology:

- Disobedience delays promise

Deuteronomy 2

Israel's journey around:

- Edom
- Moab
- Ammon

God forbids war with these nations because:

- They are relatives of Israel (Esau and Lot).

Deuteronomy 3

Defeat of:

- **Sihon** (Amorite king)
- **Og** (king of Bashan)

Land east of Jordan given to:

- Reuben
- Gad
- Half-tribe of Manasseh

Deuteronomy 4

A warning against:

- Idolatry
- Forgetting the covenant

Important doctrine:
God has **no visible form**, so images are forbidden.

Deuteronomy 5–11 — Covenant Principles

Deuteronomy 5

- Repetition of the Ten Commandments
- Emphasis on hearing and obeying

Deuteronomy 6

Contains:

The Shema

“Hear, O Israel…”

Commands:
Teach children
- Bind the law on hands and doorposts

Deuteronomy 7

Command to:
- Destroy Canaanite nations
- Avoid intermarriage

Reason:
To prevent idolatry.

Deuteronomy 8

Theme:
- God tested Israel in the wilderness
- Warning against pride when prosperous

Deuteronomy 9

Reminder:
Israel is **not righteous**—they are chosen by grace.
Golden calf story retold.

Deuteronomy 10

Second tablets of the Law
Levi chosen as priestly tribe

Deuteronomy 11

Blessings for obedience
Curses for disobedience
Future ceremony on:
- Mount Gerizim
- Mount Ebal

Deuteronomy 12–26 — The Law Code

This is the **largest legal section** in Deuteronomy.

Worship Laws

Deuteronomy 12

Centralization of worship:
- Only one sanctuary allowed

This anticipates Jerusalem.

Deuteronomy 13

Death penalty for:
- False prophets
- Idolaters
- Apostate cities

Deuteronomy 14

Clean and unclean foods
Tithing instructions

Deuteronomy 15

Sabbatical year:
- Debt release
- Hebrew slaves freed

Festival and Leadership Laws

Deuteronomy 16

Three major feasts:
- Passover
- Weeks
- Tabernacles

Also:

- Judges appointed in cities

Deuteronomy 17

Rules for:
- Courts
- Kings

Important prophecy:
The king must write his own copy of the law.

Deuteronomy 18

Provision for:
- Priests and Levites
- True prophets

Contains:

Prophecy of a Prophet like Moses

Civil and Social Laws

Deuteronomy 19

Cities of refuge established
Laws of evidence:
- Two or three witnesses required

Deuteronomy 20

Rules of warfare:
- Offer peace first
- Protect fruit trees

Deuteronomy 21

Various laws:
- Unsolved murder
- Female captives
- Firstborn inheritance

Deuteronomy 22

Social morality laws:
- Marriage
- Sexual ethics
- Property responsibility

Deuteronomy 23

Assembly restrictions
Sanitation laws
Treatment of escaped slaves

Deuteronomy 24

Divorce laws
Protection for workers and poor

Deuteronomy 25

Justice laws:
- Fair punishment
- Levirate marriage
- Honest weights

Deuteronomy 26

Offering of firstfruits
Historical confession of Israel’s origins

Deuteronomy 27–30 — Covenant Ceremony

Deuteronomy 27

Law written on stones
Curses proclaimed on Mount Ebal

Deuteronomy 28

One of the most prophetic chapters in the Bible.
Lists:

- 14 verses of blessings
- 54 verses of curses

Predicts:

- Siege
- Exile
- Global scattering

Deuteronomy 29

Covenant renewed in Moab
Includes future generations.

Deuteronomy 30

Promise of restoration after exile
Contains:

> “Choose life”

Chapters 31–34 — Transition and Death of Moses

Deuteronomy 31

Joshua installed
Law stored beside Ark

Deuteronomy 32

Song of Moses
A prophetic poem predicting:

- Israel’s rebellion
- God’s judgment
- Final redemption

Deuteronomy 33

Moses blesses the tribes
Comparable to Jacob’s blessing in Genesis 49.

Deuteronomy 34

Death of Moses
Buried in Moab
Joshua filled with wisdom

2⃣ EVERY LOCATION IN DEUTERONOMY

Main Settings

Plains of Moab

Where the entire book takes place.

Jordan River

Boundary between wilderness and promise.

Locations from Israel’s Journey (Retold)

- Horeb (Sinai)
- Kadesh-Barnea
- Mount Seir
- Red Sea route
- Bashan
- Heshbon
- Aroer
- Gilead
- Hermon
- Pisgah
- Nebo

Promised Land Locations Mentioned

- Mount Gerizim
- Mount Ebal
- Lebanon
- Euphrates
- Negev
- Hill country

Foreign Nations’ Lands Referenced

- Egypt
- Edom
- Moab
- Ammon
- Canaan

3️⃣ COMPLETE LIST OF LAWS — BY CATEGORY

This section is extremely useful for theological and ethical studies.

MORAL LAWS

Universal ethical commands reflecting God’s character.

Examples

- Worship only God (Deut 5–6)
- Honor parents
- Do not murder
- Do not steal
- Do not commit adultery
- Do not covet
- Love the foreigner (Deut 10:19)

These are timeless principles repeated in the New Testament.

CEREMONIAL LAWS

Regulate worship and ritual purity.

Includes

- Sacrifice location rules
- Feast observance
- Dietary laws
- Tithes
- Firstfruits offerings

Purpose:
To preserve Israel’s holiness and separation.

CIVIL LAWS

Governing Israel as a nation-state.

rds

- Cities of refuge

Economic

- Debt release
- Fair wages
- Honest business practices

Family law

- Divorce
- Levirate marriage
- Inheritance rights

UNIQUE LAWS FOUND ONLY IN DEUTERONOMY

These are not found in Exodus or Leviticus:

- King must not multiply horses or wives
- King must write his own Torah copy
- Protection of fruit trees during war
- Mandatory debt forgiveness every seven years
- Public reading of law every seven years

THEOLOGICAL THEMES ACROSS THE WHOLE BOOK

Deuteronomy’s Core Message

Obedience = Life
Disobedience = Exile

Deuteronomy’s Prophetic Timeline

1. Covenant given
2. Israel prospers
3. Israel becomes idolatrous
4. Foreign invasion
5. Exile
6. Repentance
7. Restoration

This exact cycle plays out in:

- Judges
- Kings
- Chronicles