

MOSES DIES. JESUS LIVES. AND JESUS SAVES!

I. [Deuteronomy 31:1-8](#) [Deuteronomy 32:48-53](#) [Deuteronomy 34:1-12](#)

A. So why the OT? Because it, like the NT, is the God-breathed, inerrant, infallible, and totally relevant Word of God. In comparing the OT & NT, Augustine brilliantly pointed out: "The New is in the Old concealed, and the Old is in the New revealed."

B. Moses was amazing. For 40 years he was part of the Egyptian monarchy, raised by Pharaoh's daughter. After fleeing Egypt, he spent 40 years as a shepherd in the land of Midian. Then God spoke to him in the burning bush and he delivered God's people from Egyptian slavery. He was the shepherd of God's people in the wilderness. There he delivered God's law, the tabernacle, all the feasts, festivals and sacrifices. He authored the first five books of the Bible. He was the instrument God used to perform great miracles. He spoke what God told him so we rightly call him a prophet. He was the one who fell on his face begging God not to wipe out His people making him a compassionate priest. From floating basket to burning bush to Red Sea crossing to numerous desert campsites to amazing signs and judgments by God, Moses faithfully served. Today he climbs Mt. Nebo.

C. [Deuteronomy 31:1-8](#) (ESV) Moses announces his departure. (cf Numbers 27:12-23)

1) **V1-2: 1** So Moses continued to speak these words to all Israel. **2** And he said to them, "I am 120 years old today. I am no longer able to go out and come in. The LORD has said to me, 'You shall not go over this Jordan.' (This isn't due to physical limitations.)

2) **V3: 3** The LORD your God Himself will go over before you. He will destroy these nations before you, so that you shall dispossess them, and Joshua will go over at your head, as the LORD has spoken. (Perhaps with a lump in his throat, Moses announces he will not lead them across the Jordan into the Promised Land but Joshua, whose name means the same as the name of Jesus, "The Lord saves") will lead them on.)

3) **V4-6: 4** And the LORD will do to them as He did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites, and to their land, when He destroyed them. **5** And the LORD will give them over to you, and you shall do to them according to the whole commandment that I have commanded you. **6** Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you." (Jesus shared similar words with His disciples at the Last Supper.)

4) **V7: 7** Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you shall go with this people into the land that the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall put them in possession of it. (Joshua already fits the bill for being strong and courageous. He along with Caleb are the only two remaining spies that snuck into Canaan 40 years earlier.)

5) **V8: 8** It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; He will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed." (And yes, these four promises are just as true for all of us!)

D. Most of Deuteronomy 32 comprises *The Song of Moses*. It's 43 verses are more than worth the read. There's also a *Song of Moses* following the Red Sea crossing and it's found in Exodus 15. Psalm 90, the only Psalm attributed to Moses, is yet another one of his greatest hits. Echoes of Moses' song in Deuteronomy 32 are found throughout the Psalms and Prophets. Yet on the very day that Moses and Joshua recite this song, the Lord speaks solemn yet expected words to Moses...

E. Deuteronomy 32:48-52 (ESV) says: 48 *That very day the LORD spoke to Moses, 49 "Go up this mountain of the Abarim, Mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, opposite Jericho, and view the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel for a possession. 50 And die on the mountain which you go up, and be gathered to your people, as Aaron your brother died in Mount Hor and was gathered to his people, 51 because you broke faith with Me in the midst of the people of Israel at the waters of Meribah-kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin, and because you did not treat Me as holy in the midst of the people of Israel. 52 For you shall see the land before you, but you shall not go there, into the land that I am giving to the people of Israel."* **(He struck the rock instead of commanding it. Oh for a do-over!)**

F. Deuteronomy 34:1-12 (ESV) allows us to climb Mt. Nebo with Moses...

1) V1-4: 1 *Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan, 2 all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the western sea, 3 the Negeb, and the Plain, that is, the Valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. 4 And the LORD said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, 'I will give it to your offspring.' I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there."* **(Sadly, Moses' feet can not walk where his eyes are allowed to frolic...)**

2) V5-6: 5 *So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD, 6 and He buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows the place of his burial to this day.* **(God alone conducted Moses' graveside service...)**

3) V7: 7 *Moses was 120 years old when he died. (40 + 40 + 40 = 120.) His eye was undimmed, and his vigor unabated.* **(He climbed the mountain at 120 years old! So back in 31:2 when Moses said: "I am 120 years old today. I am no longer able to go out and come in," it wasn't due to physical limitations; it was the Lord's doing...)**

4) V8-12: 8 *And the people of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. Then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended. 9 And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses. 10 And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, 11 none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, 12 and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.* **(So Moses, the servant of God, the friend of God, the meekest, most humble man on earth, the one to whom God spoke face to face, the deliverer of Israel, the one given the tablets of stone, passes away...)**

G. Here's a few quick takeaways before we proceed to a greater victory: None of us are getting outta here alive... Death is an integral part of living... None of us knows how old we are... Only God knows how many years we get... Time is racing by at warp speed and we are stewards of our allotment of it...

H. So is there hope and victory beyond Moses' unmarked grave on Mt. Nebo? Yes! It's an empty tomb in Jerusalem! Moses gave us a law we couldn't keep. It masterfully exposes our sin. But unfortunately it's unable to save us. A *Better Deliverer* would prove necessary. His name is Jesus! Jesus would perfectly keep the law that Moses received from God and chiseled on tablets of stone. The Law-Keeper would die for the lawbreakers! Us! This *Unblemished Lamb* would take our sin upon Himself while imputing His righteous record to us. (2 Cor. 5:21)

I. Hebrews 3:1-6 (NIV) should help us: 1 *Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our Apostle and High Priest. 2 He was faithful to the One who appointed Him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. 3 Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself. 4 For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything. (Yes-Jesus is God!) 5 "Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house," bearing witness to what would be spoken by God in the future. 6 But Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house. And we are His house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory. (Somewhere on Mt. Nebo, Moses' bones lie buried and await resurrection. And the Resurrection and the Life Himself will raise them!)*

J. Romans 8:1-4 (NLT) is even better: 1 *So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. 2 And because you belong to Him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. 3 The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent His own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving His Son as a sacrifice for our sins. 4 He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied **for us**, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit.*

K. (Rom. 3:23) We've all fallen short, missed the mark, crossed the line, broken God's laws, and grieved His Spirit. We've murmured and complained, lied and cheated, walked with idolatrous and immoral hearts, craved things belonging to others, rebelled against Him who made us, and struck the rock twice or many times more! But even as Christ died for Moses' sins, He died for ours too! Even as Moses struck that rock at Meribah, Jesus was struck and pierced on Skull Hill. He was struck and pierced there for us! Yes, it's our sin for His righteousness!

L. Dead in our trespasses and sins, the only hope for us is Jesus Christ! Only He makes the dead, alive! Only He makes the filthy, clean! Only He makes the diseased heart, whole. "*By His stripes we are healed!*" Be healed!

Hebrews 9:27-28 (NLT) takes us all home: 27 *And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment, 28 so also Christ was offered once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for Him.*

*** Close with Prayer...**

Scriptures, Videos, & Bonus Stuff

Deuteronomy 31:1-8 (ESV)

1 So Moses continued to speak these words to all Israel. **2** And he said to them, “I am 120 years old today. I am no longer able to go out and come in. The LORD has said to me, ‘You shall not go over this Jordan.’ **3** The LORD your God Himself will go over before you. He will destroy these nations before you, so that you shall dispossess them, and Joshua will go over at your head, as the LORD has spoken. **4** And the LORD will do to them as He did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites, and to their land, when He destroyed them. **5** And the LORD will give them over to you, and you shall do to them according to the whole commandment that I have commanded you. **6** Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.” **7** Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, “Be strong and courageous, for you shall go with this people into the land that the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall put them in possession of it. **8** It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; He will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.”

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 (ESV)

1 Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan, **2** all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the western sea, **3** the Negeb, and the Plain, that is, the Valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. **4** And the LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, ‘I will give it to your offspring.’ I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there.” **5** So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD, **6** and He buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows the place of his burial to this day. **7** Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eye was undimmed, and his vigor unabated. **8** And the people of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. Then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended. **9** And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses. **10** And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, **11** none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, **12** and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

Deuteronomy 32:48-52 (ESV)

48 That very day the LORD spoke to Moses, **49** “Go up this mountain of the Abarim, Mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, opposite Jericho, and view the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel for a possession. **50** And die on the mountain which you go up, and be gathered to your people, as Aaron your brother died in Mount Hor and was gathered to his people, **51** because you broke faith with Me in the midst of the people of Israel at the waters of Meribah-kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin,

and because you did not treat Me as holy in the midst of the people of Israel. **52** For you shall see the land before you, but you shall not go there, into the land that I am giving to the people of Israel.”

Hebrews 3:1-6 (NIV)

1 Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our Apostle and High Priest. **2** He was faithful to the One who appointed Him, just as Moses was faithful in all God’s house. **3** Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself. **4** For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything. **5** “Moses was faithful as a servant in all God’s house,” bearing witness to what would be spoken by God in the future. **6** But Christ is faithful as the Son over God’s house. And we are His house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory.

Romans 8:1-4 (NLT)

1 So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. **2** And because you belong to Him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. **3** The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent His own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin’s control over us by giving His Son as a sacrifice for our sins. **4** He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied for us, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit.

Hebrews 9:27-28 (NLT)

27 And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment, **28** so also Christ was offered once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for Him.

Bonus Goodies

The Song of Moses and the Song of the Lamb (Calvary Connellsville)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=usJpyTUosNE>

To the “Uttermost” and “Always” - Hebrews 7:11-25 - Sam Storms (Enjoying God)

<https://www.samstorms.org/all-articles/post/to-the--uttermost--and--always--hebrews-711-25>

The Supremacy of Christ - R.C. Sproul (Ligonier Ministries)

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/supremacy-christ>

In Praise of the Tiny Church - Melissa Edgington (Your Mom Has A Blog)

<https://yourmomhasablog.com/2023/09/11/in-praise-of-the-tiny-church/>

Man Shall Not Live by Online Bread Alone - Trevin Wax (The Gospel Coalition)
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/trevin-wax/live-online-bread-alone/>

[More Verses, Quotes, Excerpts, & Extras](#)

[Numbers 27:12-23 \(ESV\)](#)

12 The LORD said to Moses, “Go up into this mountain of Abarim and see the land that I have given to the people of Israel. **13** When you have seen it, you also shall be gathered to your people, as your brother Aaron was, **14** because you rebelled against My word in the wilderness of Zin when the congregation quarreled, failing to uphold Me as holy at the waters before their eyes.” (These are the waters of Meribah of Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin.) **15** Moses spoke to the LORD, saying, **16** “Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint a man over the congregation **17** who shall go out before them and come in before them, who shall lead them out and bring them in, that the congregation of the LORD may not be as sheep that have no shepherd.” **18** So the LORD said to Moses, “Take Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him. **19** Make him stand before Eleazar the priest and all the congregation, and you shall commission him in their sight. **20** You shall invest him with some of your authority, that all the congregation of the people of Israel may obey. **21** And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire for him by the judgment of the Urim before the LORD. At his word they shall go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he and all the people of Israel with him, the whole congregation.” **22** And Moses did as the LORD commanded him. He took Joshua and made him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole congregation, **23** and he laid his hands on him and commissioned him as the LORD directed through Moses.

[Deuteronomy 32:1-45 \(ESV\) The Song of Moses](#)

1 “Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak, and let the earth hear the words of my mouth. **2** May my teaching drop as the rain, my speech distill as the dew, like gentle rain upon the tender grass, and like showers upon the herb. **3** For I will proclaim the name of the LORD; ascribe greatness to our God! **4** “The Rock, His work is perfect, for all His ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is He. **5** They have dealt corruptly with Him; they are no longer His children because they are blemished; they are a crooked and twisted generation. **6** Do you thus repay the LORD, you foolish and senseless people? Is not He your Father, who created you, who made you and established you? **7** Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your Father, and He will show you, your elders, and they will tell you. **8** When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when He divided mankind, He fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God. **9** But the LORD's portion is His people, Jacob His allotted heritage. **10** “He found him in a desert land, and in the howling waste of the wilderness; He encircled him, He cared for him, He kept him as the apple of His eye. **11** Like an eagle that stirs up its nest, that flutters over its young, spreading out its wings, catching them, bearing them on its pinions, **12** the LORD alone guided him, no foreign god was with him. **13** He made him ride on the high places of the land, and he ate the produce of the field, and He suckled

him with honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock. **14** Curds from the herd, and milk from the flock, with fat of lambs, rams of Bashan and goats, with the very finest of the wheat--and you drank foaming wine made from the blood of the grape. **15** "But Jeshurun grew fat, and kicked; you grew fat, stout, and sleek; then he forsook God who made him and scoffed at the Rock of his salvation. **16** They stirred Him to jealousy with strange gods; with abominations they provoked Him to anger. **17** They sacrificed to demons that were no gods, to gods they had never known, to new gods that had come recently, whom your fathers had never dreaded. **18** You were unmindful of the Rock that bore you, and you forgot the God who gave you birth. **19** "The LORD saw it and spurned them, because of the provocation of His sons and His daughters. **20** And He said, 'I will hide My face from them; I will see what their end will be, for they are a perverse generation, children in whom is no faithfulness. **21** They have made Me jealous with what is no god; they have provoked Me to anger with their idols. So I will make them jealous with those who are no people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation. **22** For a fire is kindled by My anger, and it burns to the depths of Sheol, devours the earth and its increase, and sets on fire the foundations of the mountains. **23** "And I will heap disasters upon them; I will spend My arrows on them; **24** they shall be wasted with hunger, and devoured by plague and poisonous pestilence; I will send the teeth of beasts against them, with the venom of things that crawl in the dust. **25** Outdoors the sword shall bereave, and indoors terror, for young man and woman alike, the nursing child with the man of gray hairs. **26** I would have said, "I will cut them to pieces; I will wipe them from human memory," **27** had I not feared provocation by the enemy, lest their adversaries should misunderstand, lest they should say, "Our hand is triumphant, it was not the LORD who did all this." **28** "For they are a nation void of counsel, and there is no understanding in them. **29** If they were wise, they would understand this; they would discern their latter end! **30** How could one have chased a thousand, and two have put ten thousand to flight, unless their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had given them up? **31** For their rock is not as our Rock; our enemies are by themselves. **32** For their vine comes from the vine of Sodom and from the fields of Gomorrah; their grapes are grapes of poison; their clusters are bitter; **33** their wine is the poison of serpents and the cruel venom of asps. **34** "Is not this laid up in store with Me, sealed up in My treasuries? **35** Vengeance is Mine, and recompense, for the time when their foot shall slip; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and their doom comes swiftly.' **36** For the LORD will vindicate His people and have compassion on His servants, when He sees that their power is gone and there is none remaining, bond or free. **37** Then He will say, 'Where are their gods, the rock in which they took refuge, **38** who ate the fat of their sacrifices and drank the wine of their drink offering? Let them rise up and help you; let them be your protection! **39** "See now that I, even I, am He, and there is no god beside Me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; and there is none that can deliver out of My hand. **40** For I lift up My hand to heaven and swear, "As I live forever, **41** if I sharpen My flashing sword and My hand takes hold on judgment, I will take vengeance on My adversaries and will repay those who hate Me. **42** I will make My arrows drunk with blood, and My sword shall devour flesh--with the blood of the slain and the captives, from the long-haired heads of the enemy." **43** "Rejoice with Him, O heavens; bow down to Him, all gods, for He avenges the blood of His children and takes vengeance on His adversaries. He repays those who hate Him and cleanses His people's land." **44** Moses

came and recited all the words of this song in the hearing of the people, he and Joshua the son of Nun. **45** And when Moses had finished speaking all these words to all Israel, **46** he said to them, “Take to heart all the words by which I am warning you today, that you may command them to your children, that they may be careful to do all the words of this law. **47** For it is no empty word for you, but your very life, and by this word you shall live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess.”

Romans 8:1-4 (AMP)

1 Therefore there is now no condemnation [no guilty verdict, no punishment] for those who are in Christ Jesus [who believe in Him as personal Lord and Savior]. **2** For the law of the Spirit of life [which is] in Christ Jesus [the law of our new being] has set you free from the law of sin and of death. **3** For what the Law could not do [that is, overcome sin and remove its penalty, its power] being weakened by the flesh [man’s nature without the Holy Spirit], God did: He sent His own Son in the likeness of sinful man as an offering for sin. And He condemned sin in the flesh [subdued it and overcame it in the person of His own Son], **4** so that the [righteous and just] requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us who do not live our lives in the ways of the flesh [guided by worldliness and our sinful nature], but [live our lives] in the ways of the Spirit [guided by His power].

Revelation 15:1-4 (ESV)

1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and amazing, seven angels with seven plagues, which are the last, for with them the wrath of God is finished. **2** And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire--and also those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. **3** And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, “Great and amazing are Your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the nations! **4** Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. All nations will come and worship You, for Your righteous acts have been revealed.”

What is the Song of Moses?

By S. Michael Houdmann

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Song-of-Moses.html>

Question: *What is the Song of Moses (Deuteronomy 32:1–43)?*

Answer: There are at least three songs that Moses wrote. One was sung after the crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 15), one is recorded in Psalm 90, and the other was written in the last days of Moses’ life, in Deuteronomy 32.

As his time on earth drew to a close, Moses tied up several loose ends in his ministry, following God’s instructions in setting everything in order. God told Moses to write a song, commonly called “The Song of Moses,” and teach it to the people (Deuteronomy 31:19, 30). The Lord then commissioned Joshua, Moses’ replacement (verse 23).

Finally, Moses wrote down the entire Law as he had received it from God (verse 24) and gave it to the Levites to keep with the ark of the covenant (verse 25).

God required the Israelites to learn the Song of Moses in anticipation of their future apostasy in the Promised Land. God knew that, despite His blessings, Israel would turn their backs on Him and follow other gods, bringing divine judgment. When that happened, the song they had learned generations previous would “be a witness . . . against them. . . . When many disasters and calamities come on them, this song will testify against them” (Deuteronomy 31:19, 21). The Song of Moses had both a prophetic purpose (it predicted the nation’s falling away) and a didactic purpose (it taught the faithfulness of God and the consequences of sin).

The song that Moses recited to the people takes up the better part of chapter 32. Deuteronomy 32:44 says that Joshua aided Moses in the recitation of this inspired song. The same day that Israel learned the Song of Moses, God directed Moses to climb Mt. Nebo, where Moses would be laid to rest (verses 48–50).

The song begins with a universal call to listen, followed by praise of the just, faithful, and upright God (Deuteronomy 32:1–4). In contrast to God’s faithfulness is Israel’s unfaithfulness (verses 5–6). The song proceeds to recite the history of Israel from their time of bondage in Egypt, through their wilderness wanderings, to their established place in the Promised Land (verses 7–14). The Song of Moses then becomes prophetic: Israel’s future ingratitude and idolatry are predicted, as are the judgments of God for their sin (verses 15–31). Then God promises to avenge Israel against their (and His) enemies, showing compassion on His people (verses 32–42). The song ends on a joyful note, as God’s punishment is past, righteousness is restored, and the land of Israel cleansed (verse 43).

A major theme of the Song of Moses is God’s faithfulness. He is called “the Rock” four times in the song (Deuteronomy 32:15, 18, 30–31). Even as God’s people are chasing whims and trusting feeble gods, God remains their steadfast, unchanging Source of Salvation.

The last words of the Song of Moses are a promise that God will “make atonement for his land and people” (Deuteronomy 32:43). This is a significant promise, because the atonement for God’s people is none other than the sacrifice of God’s own Son, Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:20).

For Further Study:

Deuteronomy, Holman Old Testament Commentary by Doug McIntosh

- While he is not the author of every article on GotQuestions.org, for citation purposes, you may reference our CEO, S. Michael Houdmann.