

## Torah Portion #44: Devarim (דברים) "Words"

Torah ~ Deut. 1:1-3:22 | Haftarah ~ Isa. 1:1-27; Jer. 30:4-11 | Brit Chadashah ~ John 1:1-18; Acts 9:1-21; Heb. 3:7-19

In this Torah portion, Moses is only thirty-seven days away from his death. He repeats the "Words" of God to the people of Israel because it is a new generation that is now about to go into the Promised Land.

The Word

The name of this weeks Torah portion is Devarim, which means "words." It is also the title for the last book of the Torah. One ancient name for the book of Deuteronomy is *Mishnah HaTorah*, which means "repetition of the Torah." This is similar to the Greek Septuagint name *Deuteronomos*, which means "second law", from which we get our English title.

*Deut. 1:1 "These are the words which Moses spoke to all Israel on this side of the Jordan" NKJV*

*John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." NKJV*

John is referring to *Gen. 1:1* where it says "*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*" NKJV

The Hebrew word "et" (אֵת) in *Gen. 1:1* is very interesting. It can not be translated into any other language. It is used to point out the object of a sentence. It makes up both the first letter (א) and the last letter (ת) of the Hebrew Alphabet.

In *Rev. 1:8, 11; 21:6; 22:13* Yeshua says that He is "*the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end*" NKJV

*Psalms 33:6 "By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host." ESV*

*Hebrews 11:3a "By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God" NKJV*

The Word becomes Flesh

*John 1:14 "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." NKJV*

*Isaiah 55:11 "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." NKJV*

*Romans 10:17 "faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." NKJV*

In John's vision of the return of Yeshua in *Revelation 19:11-13*, His name will be "*The Word Of God*".

Obedying the Word

Yeshua said in *John 14:15* "*If you love Me, keep My commandments.*" NKJV

*Deuteronomy 28* says that there is consequences for obeying or disobeying God's Instructions, His "Words".

Some people say that all of God's Instructions is for Jewish believers, but only part of God's Instructions is for non-Jewish believers. As if there is two different sets of Instructions, but *Numbers 15:15-16* says there is only one set of Instructions.

Think about this, since Yeshua is the "Word" (God's Instructions), if there was two sets of Instructions for believers, one for Jews and one for non-Jews, then there would have to be two Yeshua's. But there is only one Yeshua and He kept all of God's Instructions. If we desire to imitate Him, then we need to walk in obedience to the same Laws that He did.

In Closing

How we should view God's Instructions as followers of the Word (Yeshua) can be summed up in *2 Timothy 3:16-17*.

## **Aliyah to the Torah**

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Torah ~ *Deuteronomy 1:5-6* NKJV

5 On this side of the Jordan in the land of Moab, Moses began to explain this law, saying,  
6 "The Lord our God spoke to us in Horeb, saying: 'You have dwelt long enough at this mountain.

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Haftarah ~ *Psalms 119:105-109* NKJV

105 Your word *is* a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.  
106 I have sworn and confirmed That I will keep Your righteous judgments.  
107 I am afflicted very much; Revive me, O LORD, according to Your word.  
108 Accept, I pray, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, And teach me Your judgments.  
109 My life *is* continually in my hand, Yet I do not forget Your law.

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Brit Chadashah ~ *John 1:1-4* NKJV

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
2 He was in the beginning with God.  
3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.  
4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.