

Handout 4-G

The Book of Deuteronomy

Directions: Read the cited scripture passages and related biblical footnotes to help you to fill in the blanks for each item.

1. The name *Deuteronomy* comes from the *deuteronomion*, which means _____ . (See *NABRE introduction to Deuteronomy*.)
2. This term is appropriate due to the fact that the Decalogue (Ten Commandments) is given here for a second time. The first time the Decalogue is given is in the Book of _____ .
3. The Book of Deuteronomy is a collection of eloquent speeches given by _____ . (See *NABRE introduction to Deuteronomy*.)
4. Probably the main idea of the book is contained in Deuteronomy 8:3 where it says: “not by bread alone that people live, but by: _____ .”
5. For the Israelites, the proof that they worship the one true God is found in the second half of Deuteronomy 3:24, which says: _____ .
6. The Book of Deuteronomy is not only a second recounting of the law but also a further explanation and amplification of the law. For instance, the reason why the Israelites are to make no idols or representations of God is found in Deuteronomy 4:15 which reminds them that _____ .
7. Deuteronomy 6:4–5 is the greatest of the 612 commandments in Jewish Law. It is also a prayer recited daily by every devout Jew. It is called the *Shema* from its first word in Hebrew, which in English is _____ .
8. A *mezuzah* is the name given to the container into which a copy of the Shema is placed. Devout Jews then place the *mezuzah* on their _____ (Dt 6:9). This is to remind them of God every time they come and go from their homes.
9. Deuteronomy 11:26–28 says that the Israelites will be blessed if they obey the Lord’s commandments. If they disobey them, they will be _____ .
10. The Israelites, in imitation of God’s own goodness, were to be concerned with other people and their care. With which three groups of people were the Israelites to be especially concerned? (Dt 14:29, 26:12) _____
11. In addition, the Israelites had an interesting custom to help the poor escape their poverty. At the end of every seven year period, there was to be a _____ . (Dt 15:1–3)

12. Generosity was another divine characteristic that the Israelites were to imitate. In Deuteronomy 15:11, God commands the Israelites to _____.
13. Certain things were not to be eaten according to the law.
 - A. Israelites could not eat certain sea creatures because they resembled reptiles. According to Deuteronomy 14:10, which creatures could the Israelites not eat? _____
 - B. Israelites could eat the flesh of animals but were not to consume their blood. They viewed blood as the sacred source of _____. (Dt 12:23)
14. Even in war, the Israelites were to follow the law. Deuteronomy 20:10 lists the first thing the Israelite army was to do when attacking an enemy city. What was it? _____

15. Deuteronomy 20:19–20 might be seen as some sort of demonstration of environmental concern or merely the concern for a food source. In any case, the law says when attacking a city, the Israelites shall not _____.
16. In criminal cases, the Israelites also had certain laws to be observed.
 - A. How many witnesses were required to condemn a criminal to death? _____
(Dt 17:6)
 - B. The maximum number of lashes a guilty party could receive in punishment was _____.
(Dt 25:3)
 - C. Each person is responsible for his own actions as seen in the second half of Deuteronomy 24:16 which states _____.
17. The Book of Deuteronomy, indeed the whole Torah, ends with the death of Israel's great leader, the man whom the Lord knew face to face. He helped establish the Israelites as a nation, a free people guided and molded by the law of God. Ironically, he never reached the Promised Land, but the Israelites did and they forever hold in great respect the person of _____.