

A Duet in Deuteronomy: The Song of Moses (feat. Joshua)

Deuteronomy 31:30-32:47

I. The Purpose of the Song of Moses (Deut. 31:19-22, 30; 32:1-3)

- A. A witness of the covenant and God's faithfulness (31:19-22, 30)
- B. Sets forth the blessing of internalizing and obeying the "teaching" of the covenant (32:1-3)

II. A Faithful God and a Faithless People (32:4-14)¹

- A. God is their "Rock" (v. 4; see also 15, 18, 30-31, cf. 37)
- B. The People (5-6) "The unchanging nature of the God of the covenant and contrasting with the fickle nature of the covenant people."²
- C. God's sovereign grace (7-14)

III. The Indictment: Israel Will Let Prosperity Turn Them from God to Idols (32:15-18)

IV. The Result of Israel's Apostasy: Judgment (32:19-25)

V. Do Not Misunderstand God's Judgments (32:26-33)

- A. Israel and the nations need to discern that God cares about his glory (26-27)
- B. Israel's being judged is not a sign of God's weakness but his sovereign control (28-33)

VI. The Lord's Compassion on Israel and Judgment on the Nations Vindicate His Name (32:34-43)

VII. Conclusion

- A. Purpose of the song (32:44-47)
- B. What should New Covenant believers learn from this song?
 1. New covenant warnings (Heb. 10:26-31, 35-39)
 2. God will vindicate his people...idols will not (Psalm 135:14-18)

¹ These headings are taken and adapted a bit from Peter C. Craigie, *The Book of Deuteronomy*, The New International Commentary on the Old Testament (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1976).

² Craigie, *The Book of Deuteronomy*, 378.