

## Deuteronomy Discussion Qs

1. What is different in the Sabbath commandment in Exodus versus Deuteronomy (in Deuteronomy there is a second giving of the Law including this law)?

A. In Exodus the basis of the commandment is creation and in Exodus the basis is redemption out of Egypt by the Passover. Neither account mentions the other one. If read independently, one might conclude that the Sabbath did not begin until the time of Moses. However, both make up a single but fuller doctrine than either alone. We learn that the promise of creation of eternal Sabbath rest that we will reach by redemption because of the fall that lies in between creation and Passover.

2. What is an important point to keep in mind (and deepen in our thoughts) with regard to the hard fact of holy war that the book of Deuteronomy prepares God's people to engage?

A. It is important and helpful to remember that the shedding of blood in physical warfare should not blind us to the fact that what is actually going on is spiritual warfare. More on this fact will come up in our discussion of Joshua, especially in the study of the extermination of the Canaanites.

3. How can we apply the central point of Deuteronomy (recall the blessings of God as encouragement for the fight still ahead) to life in the church today?

A. As we face serious life challenges, we are to look back to look ahead. 1) We are to look back in a fundamental way to the Passover deliverance from the wrath of God (comparing Israel's Passover and our Passover...Christ) that promises deliverance from all our enemies (and God's). Christ is our Passover sacrifice and thus 2) we look back to the beginning of our Christian life in the marvelous transition that took place by which God brought us out of bondage into freedom. We look back 3) to our history and God's faithfulness to us.