

Study Guide for September 7th, 2003. Becoming a Holy People. Deut. 1:1-18 Follow the Leader.

Introduction. Think of a time you have been **well led**. What were the characteristics of good leadership that you enjoyed? Compare that with a time you not **well led**. What was lacking in the leadership?

I. Expounding this INSTRUCTION (1:1-5)

A. Note the time indicators in these verses.

- 1) How many days should it take to travel from Horeb to Kadesh Barnea (vs. 2)?
- 2) The date (starting from the Exodus from Egypt) when Moses spoke Deuteronomy?
- 3) What events had just preceded this group instruction by Moses?

B. In light of the events mentioned above, do you think the Israelites were receptive to hear and apply what Moses had to say? Why or why not?

C. The term translated **law** in vs. 5 is the Hebrew word *torah* which means *teaching, guidance, or advice for a given situation*. How does this definition affect your expectation of what follows?

D. What has helped you to be open to God's instruction? Would you describe yourself as teachable?

II. Time to ADVANCE (1:6-8)

A. What did God command the people to do (vs. 6-7)? What had they just experienced?

B. What promise did God then repeat for the people (vs. 8)? When was that promise initially given?

C. When have you sensed God's leading to move forward? How did you respond?

III. Leadership must be MULTIPLIED (1:9-14)

A. What problem did Moses highlight at this time? Was this a good / bad problem? (see Gen. 15:5)

B. What was Moses wish for the people (vs. 11)? What was his concern for himself (vs. 12)?

C. What solution does Moses propose? (see Ex. 18:13-26 for the source of this solution)

D. What were to be the characteristics the men chosen? Why would these be necessary?

E. From this historical snapshot, what applications can you draw for the church today?

IV. God will DIRECT through human leaders (1:15-18)

A. To whom would the people be immediately responsible to as they entered Canaan?

B. What areas does Moses seem to be preparing for by appointing *commanders* and *judges*?

C. Where would the leaders be tempted to compromise? How do we safeguard against these?

D. Read Heb. 13:7, 17 God's guidance comes through human leadership, how should we respond?