

People Of The Book

Joshua 8:30-35

At that time Joshua built an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel, on Mount Ebal, just as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded the people of Israel, as it is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, “an altar of uncut stones, upon which no man has wielded an iron tool.” And they offered on it burnt offerings to the LORD and sacrificed peace offerings. And there, in the presence of the people of Israel, he

wrote on the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he had written. And all Israel, sojourner as well as native born, with their elders and officers and their judges, stood on opposite sides of the ark before the Levitical priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD, half of them in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, just as Moses the servant of the LORD had

commanded at the first, to bless the people of Israel. And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessing and the curse, according to all that is written in the Book of the Law. There was not a word of all that Moses commanded that

Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel, and the women, and the little ones, and the sojourners who lived among them.

At that time Joshua **built an altar** to the LORD, the God of Israel, on Mount Ebal, just as **Moses the servant of the LORD** had **commanded** the people of Israel

Deuteronomy 27:4-8

And when you have crossed over the Jordan, you shall set up these stones, concerning which I command you today, on Mount Ebal...And there you shall build an altar to the LORD your God, an altar of stones. And you shall offer burnt offerings on it to the LORD your God, and you shall sacrifice peace offerings and shall eat there, and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God. And you shall write on the stones all the words of this law very plainly.



By placing this covenant renewal ceremony here, the writer is saying that Israel's success does not primarily consist in knocking off Canaanites but in everyone's total submission to the word of God.

– Dale Ralph Davis



And there, in the presence of the people of Israel, he **wrote on the stones a copy of the law** of Moses, which he had written.

And afterward **he read all the words of the law**, the blessing and the curse, according to **all that is written in the Book of the Law**.

There was **not a word** of all that Moses commanded that **Joshua did not read** before all the assembly of Israel

What an example was this occasion of the importance of the public reading of lengthy sections of God's Word, and that its most unpalatable portions must not be omitted! The reading of the Law to "the strangers" again intimates that the Gentiles are under it.

– A. W. Pink



Joshua 1:8

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

And afterward he read all the words
of the law, the **blessing and the
curse**, according to all that is written
in the Book of the Law.

Blessings

Curses

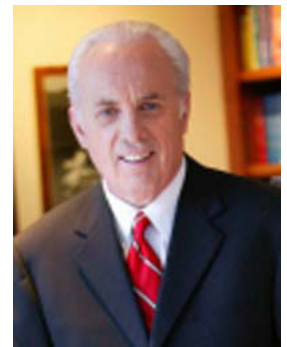
- *Give you rain in due season Land will yield her increase
- *The trees will yield their increase
- *The harvest time will reach until the vintage time
- *The vintage time will reach unto the harvest time
- *You will eat your bread to the full
- *Dwell in your land safely I will give you peace in the land.
- *No one will make you afraid I will rid evil beasts of the land.
- *There won't be the sword in the land (war)
- *You shall chase your enemies- they will fall by the sword.
- *Five of you shall chase 100 and 100 shall put 10K to flight.
- * I will have respect for you
- *I will make you fruitful and multiply your population
- * I will establish my covenant with you.
- *You will have an abundance of harvest
- * I will set my tabernacle among you
- * My soul will not abhor you I will walk among you
- * You will be my people.

- *I will appoint terror over you
- *Sickness
- *Fever that consumes the eyes
- *Sorrow of heart
- *Sow your seed in vain (for your enemies shall eat it)
- *They will hate you and reign over you.
- *You will flee when no one pursues you
- *I will set my face against you
- * You will be slain by your enemies

Scripture needs no updating, editing, or refining. Whatever time or culture you live in, it is eternally relevant. It needs no help in that regard. It is pure, sinless, inerrant truth; it is enduring. It is God's revelation for every generation. It was written by the omniscient Spirit of God, who is infinitely more sophisticated than anyone who dares stand in judgment

on Scripture's relevancy for our society, and infinitely wiser than all the best philosophers, analysts, and psychologists who pass like a childhood parade into irrelevancy.

– John MacArthur



And they offered on it **burnt offerings**
to the LORD and sacrificed peace
offerings.

Leviticus 16:24

And he shall bathe his body in water in a holy place and put on his garments and come out and offer **his burnt offering** and the **burnt offering of the people** and **make atonement** for himself and for the people.

The altar was God's solution to the sin problem. When God first gave the Law on Sinai, he gave at the same time the regulations regarding sacrifices. When he gave Moses as lawgiver, at the same time he gave Aaron to be the high priest. It was as if God were thundering from Sinai,

“Thou shalt not . . .” but then immediately added, “But I know you will, and so here is the way to escape condemnation.” Sin brings judgment. The judgment of sin is death. But the sacrifices show that it is possible for an innocent victim to die in place of the sinner.

– James Montgomery Boice



John 5:39-40

You search the **Scriptures** because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is **they that bear witness about me**, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.

Romans 15:4

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

1 Peter 1:25

But the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

2 Timothy 4:2

Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season

The Bible tells one story and points to one figure. It narrates how God rescues His world that we wrecked, and exalts Christ as the One who accomplishes the rescue. In the Old Testament God revealed Himself through types and shadows, promises and prophecies. In the New Testament God reveals Himself in Christ, who is the substance of every shadow and

the fulfillment of every promise and prophecy. The Old Testament predicts God's Rescuer; the New Testament presents God's Rescuer. Therefore, the whole Bible – both the Old and New Testaments – is all about God's Rescuer.

– Tullian Tchividjian

