

## Sample Responses for Deuteronomy 11 | Mary Evans and Mary Hannah

### STRUCTURE

*From Mary E.:*

- I. Command: Love the Lord your God and Keep His Commands
  - A. Warning: Consider what he will/can do to those who do not rightfully acknowledge and worship Him
  - B. Two Lands: Canaan is a good land to be received; Egypt was a land of slavery to be worked for
  - C. He can give or withhold the rain
- II. Command: Lay Up These Words in Your Heart and Put Them on the Forefront of Your Mind
  - A. Contemplate these things always so that you will have a warm heart to obey
  - B. Blessings/Curses: You have a choice to make; Don't be deceived and think somehow you got yourself here or could ascribe praise to anyone other than God, then you will disobey & incur curse
- III. Command: When You Possess this Land, Be Careful to Do Everything You Have Heard

*From Mary H.:*

#### 1. Keep the LORD's charge in gratitude for his historic gift of defeating your enemies (11:1-7)

- a. Charge: always keep all the LORD's commandments (v. 1)
- b. Motivation: for consider what your eyes have seen, especially in terms of the LORD's victory over Egyptian enemies and enemies in your own ranks (vv. 2-7)

#### 2. Keep the LORD's charge in gratitude for his future gift of possessing Canaan's good land and yield (11:8-25)

- a. Simple charge and motivation (vv. 8-12)
  - o Simple charge: keep the whole commandment (v. 8a)
  - o Simple motivation: that you may take possession of and flourish in Canaan's bountiful land, under the LORD's generous watchcare (vv. 8b-12)
- b. Further motivation: consequential nature of choice between keeping charge or not (vv. 13-17)
  - o If you choose to love the LORD by obeying, he will cause Canaan's land (and you) to prosper (vv. 13-15)
  - o If you choose to turn aside from the LORD by worshiping other gods, he will dry up Canaan's land so that you perish off the good land (vv. 16-17)
- c. Elaboration of charge and motivation in light of consequential nature of decision (vv. 18-25)
  - o Elaboration of charge: daily surround yourself with the LORD's instruction (vv. 18-20; compare Deut 6:4-9)
  - o Elaboration of motivation: that you may prosper in perpetuity in Canaan when the LORD dispossess the mighty Canaanites to secure your possession of Canaan (21-25)

#### 3. The choice is yours, today and in the future: blessing if you obey, curse if you disobey (11:26-32)

- a. Decision today: choice of blessing or curse; featuring covenant renewal ceremony on Moab's plains (vv. 26-28)
- b. Decision in future: choice of blessing or curse; featuring future covenant renewal ceremony at Shechem (vv. 29-32)

### UNIFYING THEME

*From Mary E.:* There is a warning to the Israelites that if they choose to reject God's blessings, by not acknowledging him as the Giver and turning to worship other gods, it will result in removal from and the inability to profit from the good land they have been given.

*From Mary H.:* Keep the LORD's charge by considering the mighty works that you have seen him do for you in the past and that he promises to do in the future, so that you will choose blessing, and not curse.

### AUTHOR'S AIM

*From Mary E.:* Moses is trying to persuade the Israelites into obedience through the picture he is painting of God's goodness in contrast to their difficulty in Egypt.

*From Mary H.:* Moses aims to bring into sharp focus several key motivations for the Israelites to keep the LORD's commandments today and in the future, immediately prior to detailing specific instructions about how the Israelites must walk in the LORD's ways once they settle in Canaan (which he will do in D 12-26).