The unity of the Bible

- Apparent conflict between Old & New Testaments
- A common message in a different setting
  - Sin and condemnation
  - Justification by faith
  - Sanctification by the Word
  - The hope of Christ’s coming
- The death of Moses – a modern message
Deuteronomy – 3 messages

- Deuteronomy 1-4 – Why are we here?
- Deuteronomy 5-26 – What must we do?
- Deuteronomy 27-30 – How shall we live?
- Deuteronomy 31-34 – A song and a blessing
Deuteronomy 31-34

- Selection of Joshua to succeed Moses (31)
- The Song of Moses (32:1-47)
- The death of Moses announced (32:48-52)
- The Blessing of Moses (33)
- The death of Moses (34)
Moses anticipates Christmas

“These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar . . .”

Hebrews 11:13-16
Moses is called to die (32:48-52)

➤ The Promise of the land of Canaan

➤ Song of Moses: a Promise in doubt?
  • No longer His children (32:5)
  • Forsook God – 32:15-18
  • Wrath – 32:23-27 – destroy their memory
  • No wisdom – 32:28-30
  • Vengeance – 32:35

➤ A contingent Promise (23:46-47)

➤ Moses disqualified!
The sin of Moses

- Seemingly trivial
- “Broke faith” (ESV)
  - Num. 31:16 – the sin of Israel at Peor – fornication
  - 1 Chr. 5:25 – idolatry
  - Ezekiel 20:25-27 – pagan worship with child sacrifices
- “Did not treat Me as holy in the midst of the people of Israel”
The outcome of Moses’ sin

- See the Land, but not enter
- Is Moses paying for his sins?
- What about the death of Christ?
- A trial of faith
- See the Land and be gathered to your people
An illustration of 1 Peter

- Must know the future to know the present
- Paradox: The way your present appears is different from what it truly is
- The stage is set for Moses to act in faith
  - He blesses Israel
  - He goes up on Mt. Nebo to die
Moses blesses the people of Israel

- An introduction to the hope of Moses (33:1-5)
- Blessings for the nation (33:6-25)
- A summary of the hope of Moses (33:26-29)
The Hope of Moses (33:1-5)

▪ A prayer for blessing

▪ An eschatological statement (33:2)
  ▪ Isaiah 63 – Who is this Who comes from Edom . . .?
  ▪ Habakkuk 3 – “God came from Teman and the Holy One from Mount Paran”
  ▪ Jude 14-15 – Enoch’s message – “Behold, the LORD comes with ten thousands of His holy ones to execute judgment . . .”

▪ His holy ones were righteous (33:3-4)

▪ The LORD became king in Jeshurun (33:5)
Moses blesses Israel

- Reuben – Life, not death
- Judah
  - LORD, hear the Voice of Judah – Christ
  - The LORD will bring Him to His people
  - The LORD will overcome His adversaries
Moses blesses Israel

- Levi
  - Tested at Massah and Meribah – when Israel tested God
  - Devoted to God above family ties (Ex. 32:26-27, Lev. 10)
  - Special place in Israel
    - Urim and Thummim – discerning the will of God
    - Teaching role
    - Leading worship
  - Numbers 25:13 – perpetual priesthood
Moses blesses Israel

- **Benjamin**
  - Dwells in safety
  - Between His shoulders – terms of endearment

- **Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh)**
  - Birthright remains (Psalm 78:60)
  - Material prosperity
  - Leader in Israel

- **Zebulun and Issachar**
  - “In your going out” – all activities of daily life
  - Material prosperity with spiritual leadership
Moses blesses Israel

- **Gad**
  - Execute justice and righteousness
- **Dan**
  - Lion’s cub – royalty – son of God
- **Naphtali**
  - Satisfied and richly blessed by the LORD
- **Asher**
  - Most blessed of the sons be Asher
The Hope of Moses (33:26-29)

- The incomparable God comes to help
- Eternal God is dwelling place – an eternal kingdom
- Living in peace and prosperity on the earth
- Happy in the salvation of the LORD
The death of Moses (34)

- Moses saw the Land – with eyes of faith
- Moses did not enter – waits with the saints
- Final commendation of Moses by the LORD
  None like Moses in communion with God
  None like Moses in ministry
- Moses did not die under judgment
Come, my soul, thy suit prepare
Trinity Hymnal, #531

Show me what I have to do,
Ev'ry hour my strength renew:
Let me live a life of faith,
Let me die thy people's death.

Let me die “Moses’ death”!
A Christmas Message!

- Moses lived and died looking for the Baby in the manger
- The Baby in the manger is the King of Jeshurun
- Happy are the people saved by the LORD
- “Good tidings of great joy . . .” Luke 2:10