

# Book of Deuteronomy

## Synopsis



## Introduction

Book No	5
Name	Deuteronomy
Written By	Moses
Testament	Old
Category	Pentateuch
Date Written	Approx. 1407 - 1406 BC
Place Written	East of Jordan river
Audience	To the new generation of Israel entering the promised land
Purpose	To remind the people of what GOD had done and encourage them to rededicate their lives to HIM
History Covered	1240 – 1239 BC
Chapters	34
Verses	957
Key Verse	Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations (7:9)
Key People	❖ Moses ❖ Joshua
Key Places	❖ Promised Land

## Purpose of the Book

The book of Deuteronomy is written in the form of a treaty between a king and his vassal state typical of the second millennium B.C. It calls Israel to remember who God is and what he has done. Lacking faith, the old generation had wandered for 40 years and died in the wilderness. They left Egypt behind, but never knew the Promised Land. Then on the east bank of the Jordan River, Moses prepared the sons and daughters of that faithless generation to possess the land. After a brief history lesson emphasizing God's great acts on behalf of his people, Moses reviewed the law. Then he restated the covenant—God's contract with his people.

Deuteronomy is a series of farewell addresses by Moses to the Israelites as he prepares to die and as they make ready to enter the Promised Land. As the Israelites prepared to enter the Promised Land, they faced a turning point in their history—new foes, new temptations, and new leadership. Moses called the people together to remind them of the Lord's faithfulness and to challenge them to be faithful and obedient to their God as they possessed the Promised Land.

What God had promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob centuries before is about to come true. Deuteronomy is the proclamation of a second chance for Israel. Israel's lack of faith and disloyalty had prevented the conquest of Canaan earlier. Moses realizes that the Israelites' greatest temptation in the new land will be to forsake God and to take up the worship of the Canaanite idols. Thus he is concerned for the perpetuation of the covenant relationship.

To prepare the nation for life in the new land, Moses expounds the commandments and statutes God had given in His covenant. Obedience to God is equated with life, blessing, health, and prosperity. Disobedience is equated with death, cursing, disease, and poverty. The covenant showed God's children the way to live in fellowship with Him and with each other.

Deuteronomy teaches that the relation of God to His people is far more than law. The indispensable conditions of our covenant relationship with God are obedience and loyalty. Our love, affection, and devotion to the Lord must be the true foundation of all our actions. Loyalty to God is the essence of true piety and holiness. Success, victory, prosperity, and happiness all depend upon our obedience to the Father. The book is a plea for our obedience to God based upon the motives of love and fear. (10:12, 13)

Jesus often quoted from Deuteronomy. When asked to name the most important commandment, He responded with Deuteronomy 6:5. When confronted by Satan at His temptation, He quoted exclusively from Deuteronomy (8:3; 6:16; 6:13; and 10:20).

Several of his most significant prophecies included

- ❖ The coming of the Messiah (18:15),
- ❖ The dispersion of Israel (30:1),
- ❖ The repentance (30:2)
- ❖ Restoration (30:5) of Israel,
- ❖ Israel's future national restoration and conversion (30:5, 6),
- ❖ Israel's national prosperity (30:9).

The lessons are clear. Because of what God has done, Israel should have hope and follow him; because of what he expects, they should listen and obey; because of who he is, they should love him completely. Learning these lessons will prepare them to possess the Promised Land.

As you hear the message of Deuteronomy, remember how God has expressed his kindness in your life, and then commit yourself anew to trust, love, and obey him.

### Overview

- ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> book of the BIBLE, Old Testament, Pentateuch
- ❖ Moses name appears 40 times in this book
- ❖ This was just before Moses' death and Joshua's leading of the Israelites into Canaan.
- ❖ Deuteronomy therefore covers less than a two-month period, which includes the thirty days of mourning for Moses' death
- ❖ Moses exhorts them thirty-five times to "go in and possess" the land.
- ❖ Thirty-four times he reminds them that this is the land that the Lord is giving them.
- ❖ So powerful is Deuteronomy's message that it is quoted over eighty times in the New Testament.
- ❖ Deuteronomy is not a second law but an adaptation and expansion of much of the original Law given on Mt. Sinai. This is done through three sermons of Moses:
  - The 1st sermon. 1:1 - 4:3
  - The 2nd sermon. 4:44 - 26:19
  - The 3rd sermon. 27 - 34

- ❖ Chapter 1-11 look backwards to where the Israelites came from and summarizes what happened to them from their founding with a dynamic leader. Chapter 12 begins a look forward to the settlement of promised land and a royal dynasty.

### Hebrew Names of GOD used in Deuteronomy

- ❖ JEHOVAH
- ❖ JEHOVAH-SHALOM
- ❖ EL-ELYON
- ❖ ABIR
- ❖ KANNA
- ❖ TSUR

### Revelation of JESUS CHRIST

Moses was the first to prophesy the coming of the Messiah, a Prophet like Moses himself (18:15).

### Work of THE HOLY SPIRIT

The unifying theme throughout the Bible is the redemptive activity of God. Deuteronomy reminds the people that the Spirit of God had been with them from the time of their deliverance from Egypt to the present and that He would continue to guide and protect them if only they would be obedient to the stipulations of the covenant. As a spokesman for God, Moses demonstrated the presence of the Holy Spirit as he prophesied to the people.

### Mega Themes of Deuteronomy

#### HISTORY

Moses reviewed the mighty acts of God whereby he liberated Israel from slavery in Egypt. He recounted how God had helped them and how the people had disobeyed.

By reviewing God's promises and mighty acts in history, we can learn about his character. We come to know God more intimately through understanding how he has acted in the past. We can also avoid mistakes in our own lives through learning from Israel's past failures.

#### LAWS

God reviewed his laws for the people. The legal contract between God and his people had to be renewed by the new generation about to enter the Promised Land.

Commitment to God and his truth cannot be taken for granted. Each generation and each person must respond afresh to God's call for obedience.

### LOVE

God's faithful and patient love is portrayed more often than his punishment. God shows his love by being faithful to his people and his promises. In response, God desires love from the heart, not merely a legalistic keeping of his law.

God's love forms the foundation for our trust in him. We trust him because he loves us. Because God loves us, we should maintain justice and respect.

### CHOICES

God reminded his people that in order to ratify his agreement, they must choose the path of obedience. A personal decision to obey would bring benefits to their lives; rebellion would bring severe calamity.

Our choices make a difference. Choosing to follow God benefits us and improves our relationships with others. Choosing to abandon God's ways brings harm to ourselves and others.

### TEACHING

God commanded the Israelites to teach their children his ways. They were to use ritual, instruction, and memorization to make sure their children understood God's principles and passed them on to the next generation.

Quality teaching for our children must be a priority. It is important to pass on God's truth to future generations in our traditions. But God desires that his truth be in our hearts and minds and not merely in our traditions.

## Life Lessons in Deuteronomy

Truth	Lesson
<p><b>Growing in Godliness</b></p> <p>Deuteronomy explains God's covenant to a new generation—one on the brink of going forward to take their inheritance. In its lessons, today's believer will find</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Study and learn God's statutes and ways, so that you may be faithful to walk in them.</li> <li>❖ Guard your heart so that you do not become complacent in prosperity. Acknowledge all provision is from the Lord.</li> </ul>

<p>the challenge to renew their commitment to remain holy and to love, honor, serve, and cleave only to the Lord.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Scripture is the standard by which all ministry is to be tested. Hold fast to biblical truth.</li> <li>❖ Choose blessing and life, renew your commitment to the Lord, obey His voice, and cling only to Him.</li> <li>❖ Reject any ministry that does not measure upto the BIBLE</li> <li>❖ Give attention to proper parental discipline. Rebellious children bring shame to their parents and dishonour the LORD</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cultivating Dynamic Devotion</b></p> <p>Undivided devotion requires wholehearted commitment to the Lord. God calls His people to pursue Him with all of their heart, soul and strength. In that pursuit, we will find life and blessing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Seek and depend on God’s presence. In His presence, we will find victory.</li> <li>❖ Study God’s Word diligently. Apply it to all you think and do. God will show His goodness and greatness.</li> <li>❖ Seek God’s face with all your heart. He promises you will find Him. Give yourself to prayer and to being in His presence.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pursuing Holiness</b></p> <p>Holiness implies being separated and distinct from the world. Deuteronomy teaches positive disciplines that lead to a holy lifestyle that honors the Lord and gives place to the flowing of His holy, healthy, and happy ways into our lives. That is what holiness is about.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Practice Scripture memorization, and spend time thinking about God’s Word. As His Word changes our hearts, changed behavior follows.</li> <li>❖ Seek from Scripture the life-giving ways God wants you to live, and practice them so that your life will increase in God’s wholeness.</li> <li>❖ Understand that, when chosen, actions choose the consequences as well.</li> </ul>

<p><b>The Walk of Faith</b></p> <p>God is committed to bringing His people to maturity. It is important to remember as we walk through this process, our walk of faith, that He has promised to complete it, each step of the way (see Phil. 1:6).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Do not despise small advances. The process toward maturity is realized by small steps more often than by big ones.</li> <li>❖ Recount frequently to your children the faithfulness and ways of the Lord. Doing so will teach them to put their trust in God and will enable you to leave a heritage.</li> <li>❖ Rest in God’s nurturing care. Know that He has committed Himself to care for you, guide you, and bring you to maturity.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Keys to Moral Purity</b></p> <p>The theme of moral and sexual purity is further emphasized as being an essential part of covenant loyalty to God. Godly purity often stands in stark contrast to the social standards of those among whom God’s people dwell.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Understand the high value that God places on sexual purity. Reject today’s casual attitude toward sexual relations. Virginity is to be valued and purity guarded.</li> <li>❖ Run from adultery. Do not even entertain the thought of it. Honor faithfulness in marriage, for in it you will find blessing, health, and fulfillment.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Guidelines to Gaining Victory</b></p> <p>By studying warfare in the OT, we can gain important principles that can be applied to any present spiritual conflict in which we find ourselves (see Eph. 6:10–20). From both the triumphs and the defeats, we can learn how to walk in victory.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Remember, the battle is the Lord’s. Trust your battles to Him, and rest in His victory. He will fight for you.</li> <li>❖ Be confident that God will supply all you need to follow Him fully. Understand that life in Christ is a life of faith. Depend on His constant provision.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Steps to dealing with sin</b></p> <p>It is important to deal with sins of heart and attitude before they</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Guard against bitterness in your own heart and among GOD’s people. It most often causes people to turn away from GOD</li> <li>❖ Turn away from fear, faintheartedness and discouragement. All unbelief is sin</li> </ul>

fester, poisoning our lives and resulting in hateful actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Trust in GOD’s presence. HE promises to be with you always to keep you from fear</li> <li>❖ Remain mindful of your proneness to sin and turning away from GOD</li> <li>❖ Acknowledge and rely on GOD’s strength and abundant provision</li> </ul>
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### Praise Points in Deuteronomy

- ❖ HIS grace in choosing us as his people (7:7-8);
- ❖ HIS commands, which we can teach to our children to help them grow (11:18-21);
- ❖ The mighty ways in which he delivers his people from oppression (26:7-8);
- ❖ The blessings that come from following his commands (7:12-15; 30:1-10);
- ❖ HIS word, which is not too difficult to understand or perform (30:11-14); and
- ❖ Dedicated leaders who guide the community of faith (34:5-9).

### Worship Insights in Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy, Moses’ final address to the people of Israel, is a book almost solely about worship. By studying what God required of the Israelites’ worship, we can learn much about what God desires from our worship today. The book itself represents several facets of worship. First, Deuteronomy employs preaching and teaching, calling us, the listeners, to be faithful to our partnership with God. We are to worship the Lord alone (6:4-5), a theme that Jesus stressed in his own teaching as well.

But this sermon of Moses contains more than just law (what the people must do in obedience); it also offers us grace (what the Lord, out of his love, has done to set his people free). “It was simply because the LORD loves you, and because he was keeping the oath he had sworn to your ancestors. That is why the LORD rescued you with such amazing power from your slavery under Pharaoh in Egypt” (7:8). Christian preaching, in the same way, presents both what God expects of us and what he has done for us through Jesus Christ.

Our worship of the Lord, whatever our tradition, should offer us the opportunity to make a similar pledge of commitment to God. As in Deuteronomy, however, our motivation for worship should be in response to God’s love for us (1 John 4:19). This is not a sentimental feeling but a covenant love, a relationship of mutual commitment.

The Word of God is a powerful weapon against evil. The apostle Paul called it “the sword of the Spirit” (Ephesians 6:17). Jesus knew how to use that weapon, and as a result, he triumphed over the Devil’s temptations. Jesus’ final quotation, which ended the struggle with Satan, was a directive about worship: “You must worship the Lord your God; serve only him” (Matthew 4:10; Deuteronomy 6:13).

- ❖ We are to teach our children God’s truths and ways, instructing them by lifestyle as much as by precept (4:9; 6:20; 11:19).
- ❖ Worship involves more than just remembering God’s past deeds; through worship we reexperience God’s salvation for us today (5:3-4).
- ❖ Our places of worship should be constructed solely for God and his purposes (12:4-7).
- ❖ We must not neglect supporting those who lead us in worship (18:1-8).
- ❖ Traditional prayers and creeds can help us worship by reminding us of our responsibilities and recalling the history of God’s dealings with us (26:1-15).
- ❖ God’s Word is always present with us to accomplish his purpose; it is “very close at hand; it is on your lips and in your heart so that you can obey it” (30:14).

## An Outline of Deuteronomy

### I. "These are the Words Which Moses Spoke": [Deu\\_1:1-5](#)

#### A. Moses' Final Messages: [Deu\\_1:1-5](#)

### II. Preparation Commanded for the Promised Land: [Deu\\_1:6-18](#)

#### A. See the Land (Vision): [Deu\\_1:6-8](#)

#### B. Share the Load (Delegation): [Deu\\_1:9-14](#)

#### C. Select the Leaders (Leadership): [Deu\\_1:15](#)

#### D. Structure the Leadership (Organization): [Deu\\_1:16-18](#)

### III. Problems Encountered at the Promised Land: [Deu\\_1:19-46](#)

#### A. The Best Is Yet to Come

#### B. The Land is Seen: [Deu\\_1:19-21](#)

#### C. The Land is Searched: [Deu\\_1:22-25](#)

#### D. The Rebellion of the People: [Deu\\_1:26-33](#)

#### E. The Response of the Lord: [Deu\\_1:34-40](#)

#### F. The Reaction of the People: [Deu\\_1:41-46](#)

- IV. Potential Lost at the Promised Land: [Deu\\_2:1-15](#)**
  - A. A Goal is Lost and a Generation is Lost: [Deu\\_2:1-15](#)**
- V. Principal Events Outside the Promised Land: [Deu. 2:16-3:29](#)**
  - A. The Kings are Defeated and Delivered: [Deu. 2:16-3:11](#)**
  - B. The Land is Possessed and Divided: [Deu\\_3:12-17](#)**
  - C. The People are Commanded and Directed: [Deu\\_3:18-22](#)**
  - D. Moses is Forbidden to See the Promised Land: [Deu\\_3:23-29](#)**
- VI. Past Incidents Interpreted for Entry into the Promised Land: [Deu\\_4:1-40](#)**
  - A. Respond Appropriately to God's Law: [Deu\\_4:1-8](#)**
  - B. Remember Diligently God's Blessings: [Deu\\_4:9-14](#)**
  - C. Reject Continually Any Other Gods: [Deu\\_4:15-31](#)**
  - D. Reflect Inwardly that God Chose You: [Deu\\_4:32-40](#)**
- VII. Old Law for a New Generation: [Deu. 4:41-5:33](#)**
  - A. Introduction to the Message: [Deu\\_4:41-49](#)**
  - B. The Ten Commandments Received: [Deu\\_5:1-22](#)**
  - C. The Ten Commandments Revered: [Deu\\_5:23-33](#)**
- VIII. Old Law for Succeeding Generations: [Deu\\_6:1-25](#)**
  - A. Receive the Law Personally: [Deu\\_6:1-5](#)**
  - B. Teach the Law Continually: [Deu\\_6:6-9](#)**
  - C. Live the Law Completely: [Deu\\_6:10-19](#)**
  - D. Explain the Law Historically: [Deu\\_6:20-25](#)**
- IX. A Chosen People: [Deu\\_7:1-26](#)**
  - A. Separated to God: [Deu\\_7:1-5](#)**
  - B. Selected by God: [Deu\\_7:6-11](#)**
  - C. Successful in God: [Deu\\_7:12-26](#)**
- X. Remember the Lord's Provision: [Deu\\_8:1-20](#)**
  - A. Remember the Lord's Blessings When Things are Bad: [Deu\\_8:1-10](#)**
  - B. Remember the Lord's Blessings When Things are Good: [Deu\\_8:11-20](#)**
- XI. Remember Your Provocation: [Deu. 9:1-10:11](#)**
  - A. God's Provisions in Spite of Our Provocation: [Deu\\_9:1-6](#)**

**B.** Israel's Problems Because of Provoking God: [Deu\\_9:7-24](#)

**C.** Moses' Prayer on Behalf of the People: [Deu. 9:25-10:11](#)

**XII.** Respond with Total Obedience: [Deu. 10:12-11:32](#)

**A.** Israel Must Obey God Because of His Greatness: [Deu\\_10:12-22](#)

**B.** Israel Must Obey God Because of What They Have Seen: [Deu\\_11:1-7](#)

**C.** Israel Must Obey God Because of What They Will Receive: [Deu\\_11:8-17](#)

**D.** Israel Must Obey God Because of His Blessings on Their Family:  
[Deu\\_11:18-21](#)

**E.** Israel Must Obey God Because of the Victories They Will Accomplish:  
[Deu\\_11:22-25](#)

**F.** Israel Must Obey God Because of the Consequences of Their Choices:  
[Deu\\_11:26-32](#)

**XIII.** Regulations Concerning Worship: [Deu\\_12:1-32](#)

**XIV.** Potential Influences to Idolatry: [Deu\\_13:1-18](#)

**A.** Religious Leaders: [Deu\\_13:1-5](#)

**B.** Family and Close Friends: [Deu\\_13:6-11](#)

**C.** Community Leaders: [Deu\\_13:12-18](#)

**XV.** Regulations Concerning Mourning and Eating: [Deu\\_14:1-21](#)

**A.** Improper Mourning: [Deu\\_14:1-2](#)

**B.** Eating: [Deu\\_14:3-21](#)

**XVI.** Regulations Concerning Giving: [Deu. 14:22-15:23](#)

**A.** Giving Support to God's Work: [Deu\\_14:22-29](#)

**B.** Giving Release to Debtors: [Deu\\_15:1-6](#)

**C.** Giving Generously to the Poor: [Deu\\_15:7-11](#)

**D.** Giving Freedom to the Bondservant: [Deu\\_15:12-18](#)

**E.** Sacrifice of Firstborn Animals: [Deu\\_15:19-23](#)

**XVII.** Regulations Concerning Feasts: [Deu\\_16:1-17](#)

**A.** The Passover: [Deu\\_16:1-8](#)

**B.** The Feast of Weeks: [Deu\\_16:9-12](#)

**C.** The Feast of Tabernacles: [Deu\\_16:13-17](#)

**XVIII. Regulations Concerning Society: Deu. 16:18-19:21**

- A. Administration of Justice: Deu. 16:18-17:13
- B. Principles for Israel's Kings: [Deu\\_17:14-20](#)
- C. Provision for the Priests and Levites: [Deu\\_18:1-8](#)
- D. Prohibition of Wicked Customs: [Deu\\_18:9-14](#)
- E. Another Moses Promised: [Deu\\_18:15-22](#)
- F. The Cities of Refuge: [Deu\\_19:1-21](#)

**XIX. Regulations Concerning War: [Deu\\_20:1-20](#)**

- A. Preparing the Army Spiritually: [Deu\\_20:1-4](#)
- B. Preparing the Army Internally: [Deu\\_20:5-9](#)
- C. Preparing the Approach Externally: [Deu\\_20:10-20](#)

**XX. Regulations Concerning Murder, War, and Family Affairs: [Deu\\_21:1-23](#)**

- A. Unsolved Murder: [Deu\\_21:1-9](#)
- B. Female War Prisoners: [Deu\\_21:10-14](#)
- C. The Firstborn Inheritance Rights: [Deu\\_21:15-17](#)
- D. The Rebellious Son: [Deu\\_21:18-21](#)
- E. A Hanged Man: [Deu\\_21:22-23](#)

**XXI. Regulations Concerning Various Issues: Deu. 22:1-23:25**

- A. Assisting Your Neighbor: [Deu\\_22:1-4](#)
- B. Transvestism: [Deu\\_22:5](#)
- C. Birds: [Deu\\_22:6-7](#)
- D. Home Safety: [Deu\\_22:8](#)
- E. Prohibition of Certain Mixtures: [Deu\\_22:9-11](#)
- F. Tassels: [Deu\\_22:12](#)
- G. Sexual Morality: [Deu\\_22:13-30](#)
- H. Admission into the Lord's Assembly: [Deu\\_23:1-8](#)
- I. Cleanliness in the Camp: [Deu\\_23:9-14](#)
- J. Escaped Slaves: [Deu\\_23:15-16](#)
- K. Prostitution: [Deu\\_23:17-18](#)
- L. Lending with Interest: [Deu\\_23:19-20](#)
- M. Making a Vow: [Deu\\_23:21-23](#)
- N. Eating Other People's Crops: [Deu\\_23:24-25](#)

**XXII. Responsibilities Concerning the Weak and the Wrong: Deu. 24:1-25:19**

- A. Remarriage After Divorce: [Deu\\_24:1-4](#)
- B. Responsibilities Concerning the Weak: [Deu\\_24:5-22](#)
- C. Administration of Beatings: [Deu\\_25:1-4](#)
- D. Continuing a Dead Man's Name: [Deu\\_25:5-10](#)
- E. Responsibilities Concerning the Wrong: [Deu\\_25:11-12](#)
- F. Honest Weights and Measures: [Deu\\_25:13-16](#)
- G. Responsibilities Concerning the Amalekites: [Deu\\_25:17-19](#)

**XXIII. Acknowledgment of God as Benefactor: Deu\_26:1-19**

- A. Acknowledgment by Offerings: [Deu\\_26:1-15](#)
- B. Acknowledgment by Obedience: [Deu\\_26:16-19](#)

**XXIV. Emphasizing the Covenant: Deu. 27:1-28:68**

- A. Written for the People to See: [Deu\\_27:1-8](#)
- B. Spoken for the People to Hear: [Deu\\_27:9-10](#)
- C. Curses on Disobedience: [Deu\\_27:11-26](#)
- D. Options for the People to Decide: [Deu\\_28:1-68](#)

**XXV. Entering into the Covenant: Deu. 29:1-30:20**

- A. Enter on the Basis of History: [Deu\\_29:1-9](#)
- B. Enter that God May Establish You: [Deu\\_29:10-13](#)
- C. Enter for the Sake of Others: [Deu\\_29:14-29](#)
- D. Enter for the Sake of the Nation: [Deu\\_30:1-10](#)
- E. Enter on the Basis of Understanding: [Deu\\_30:11-14](#)
- F. Enter Today While the Option is Clear: [Deu\\_30:15-20](#)

**XXVI. Preparation for the Land Which Lies Ahead: Deu. 31:1-33:29**

- A. A Leader to Be Selected: [Deu\\_31:1-8](#)
- B. Law to Be Read Regularly: [Deu\\_31:9-13](#)
- C. A Warning Message: [Deu\\_31:14-21](#)
- D. A Message to Be Delivered: [Deu\\_31:22-29](#)
- E. A Song to Be Sung: Deu. 31:30-32:47
- F. A Land to Be Denied: [Deu\\_32:48-52](#)
- G. A Blessing to Be Given: [Deu\\_33:1-29](#)

**XXVII. A Change of Leaders: Deu\_34:1-12**

**A. The Death of Moses: Deu\_34:1-8**

**B. Moses Remembered: Deu\_34:9-12**