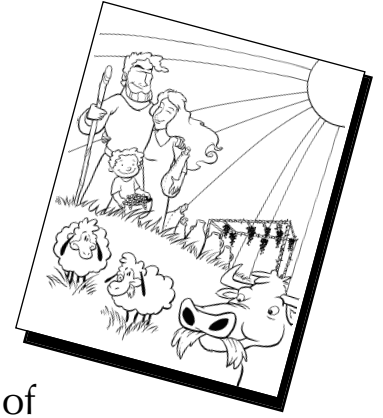




# God Promises to Bless or Curse

*Deuteronomy 11; 28*



## LESSON GOAL

Students will see the promised results of obedience.

## LESSON OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to

- Explain what would happen if Israel obeyed or disobeyed.
- Recall blessings that God gave Israel for past obedience.
- Describe the consequences of disobedience for Israel.
- Identify consequences for obedience and disobedience today.

## KEY VERSE

“Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God...and the curse, if you do not obey” (Deuteronomy 11:26–28a).

## APPLICATION

- Obey God to demonstrate your love for Him.
- Remember God’s blessings for past obedience.
- Memorize God’s Word so you will do what is right.
- Honor God in all you do. He is worthy of our praise.

### Symbol Key



Craft



Memory Verse



Object Lesson



Game



Visual Aid



Activity



Q & A



Work Sheet



2 Grade Level



## PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

*“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul.... You shall teach them to your children” (Deuteronomy 11:18–19).*

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God’s Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here to aid you in understanding the Scripture.

In today’s lesson, Moses once again was reminding Israel of their duty before God. They were to love God and keep His commands (Deut. 11:1). He explained to Israel what God required of them and told them that that the result of obedience would be a long and prosperous life in the Promised Land. Moses reminded Israel of the great wonders that God had done for them when they were obedient in the past. He also warned them of the great danger of disobeying God’s instruction by recalling the destruction of the rebellious families who were swallowed by the earth. The people of Israel had witnessed God’s faithfulness and justice firsthand. And because of the warning that they had received, they had no excuse when they finally were removed from the land for their disobedience (Deut. 4:25–31). (The removal of the northern kingdom occurred in 722 B.C. by Assyria, and Judah was removed in 586 B.C. by Babylon.)

Moses instructed the people, “Keep every commandment which I command you today, that you may be strong, and go in and possess the land...that you may prolong your days” (Deut. 11:8–9a). Later in the chapter, he went on to say, “Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey...and the curse, if you do not obey” (11:26–28). Moses made it very clear that there was a cause-and-effect relationship between obedience and blessing and disobedience and cursing. The Israelites were on the verge of crossing into the Promised Land to possess it. Their commitment to God’s law would have a direct effect on the continued blessing on the land. Israel’s true love for God was evidenced through their obedience to His Word. In the New Testament, Jesus repeated this principle when He said, “If you love Me, keep My commandments” (John 14:15).

What made Moses’ call of commitment to God so unique was the stark contrast to the worship practiced by the surrounding nations. According to the religion of Canaan, the god Baal was responsible for the fertility of the land. The Canaanites believed that Baal was directly linked to the rain and the success of the crops each year. Without rain in its season, the land would not be productive, and the people would not have the food that they needed to live. The Canaanites would sacrifice to Baal in an attempt to appease him and get him to send rain. Their actions were not driven by their love for Baal but by their belief that they could make Baal do what they wanted.

Moses warned the Israelites not to “turn aside from the way I commanded you today to go after other gods which you have not known” (Deut. 11:28). Remember that at this time, the Canaanites still inhabited the land. Because the Israelites failed to remove the Canaanites completely from the land, they were enticed to worship Canaan’s gods and not the one true God. Their commitment to God could not be partial or wavering. They needed to be completely dedicated to Him. They did not have the option of worshiping God along with something else. God is a jealous God. He said, “I am the LORD, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to carved images” (Isa. 42:8; 48:11).

### Additional Reference Materials

*The Message of  
Deuteronomy* by  
Raymond Brown

*The MacArthur Study  
Bible* by John MacArthur

*The New American  
Commentary* by  
Eugene H. Merrill

In this passage, Moses gave Israel two motivations for loving and obeying God. The first motivation was the mercy that God had shown to them throughout their history. God had demonstrated His mercy by rescuing them from Egypt and then continually sustaining and guiding them through their wanderings in the wilderness. The second motivation for Israel's obedience was the fact that God had protected them in the past and would continue to do so in the future. God's promise of a future blessing in the land for Israel was dependent on Israel's constant obedience to God's commands (Deut. 11:13–17).

Israel was also told what would happen if they disobeyed the Lord's commands. In Deuteronomy 28, Moses had finished preparing the people to enter the Promised Land. The focus was no longer on the future possibilities of Israel, but rather on their covenant renewal just before they entered the land. Deuteronomy 29:1 is a summary of the chapter. It says, "These are the words of the covenant which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel." Israel was renewing the covenant that they had made when they came out of Egypt. God had promised to give this land to Israel, but there were conditions that must be met in order to enjoy the blessings of the land in the future. The people had publicly committed to obey God's standards for their lives. They had been given the responsibility to remain loyal to the Lord. God had miraculously brought them from Egypt, provided food and water, and had given them everything that they could ever need.

In Deuteronomy 28, we can see the blessings and curses promised as a result of obedience and disobedience. These blessings and curses were written in couplets, which helped Israel to memorize them. This also showed the importance of the choice between blessings and curses (blessed/cursed shall be the fruit of your body, blessed/cursed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl, etc.—Deut. 28:4, 5, 17, 18). Israel was given the opportunity to make a conscious decision to choose curses or blessings.

This long list of curses, which encompasses about three-fourths of the passage, is designed as a stern reminder to not fall into sin, lest these things happen. Verse 20 encompasses much of the essence of the following curses (Deut. 28:15–68): "The Lord will send on you cursing, confusion, and rebuke in all that you set your hand to do, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, because of the wickedness of your doings in which you have forsaken Me" (28:20).

In the following verses, the extent of the cursing that Israel would encounter if they were disloyal to God becomes clear. The first section of curses is an opposite reflection of the blessings given in the first half of the chapter. The curses made it very clear that the devastation would be painful and would encompass every aspect of life. The curses would continue, and there would not be relief until the Lord destroyed Israel (Deut. 28:20). The images painted in these verses are gruesome and likely would provide a great incentive to avoid these consequences at all costs. These verses speak of disease, infertility, various sicknesses, scorching sun, lack of water, defeat by enemies, madness, sickness, destitution, weakness, pestilence, loss of family members, deportation, and more. This last curse, deportation into slavery in Egypt, would create a full circle for Israel when it took place. Though they could have lived freely with the blessings of a land flowing with milk and honey, they would rather choose rebellion to God and return to bondage.

It is ironic that people would choose to embrace a false god whom they could control rather than submit to the sovereignty of the one true God. Moses warned Israel of the dangers of rebelling against God. He warned them that curses and judgment would come on them if they disobeyed God and worshiped other gods. God is gracious and kind and desires to bless His people. But He also is just and

punishes sin. The God who punished the Israelites for their sin is the same God who punishes believers today when they rebel. The principles behind these verses still are true. God hates and punishes sin and blesses obedience.

## POINT TO THE TRUTH

*"Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth"*  
(Psalm 78:1).

This section includes questions to review last week's lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week's lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



### Review Questions

*Use these questions to review and reinforce key truths.*

What did we learn about God from Deuteronomy 6:4?  
*We learn that the Lord is one God.*

What was the Israelites' first responsibility?  
*Their first responsibility was to love the Lord.*

How were the Israelites to love the Lord?  
*They were to love the Lord with all of their heart, soul, and strength. The Israelites were to reveal their love for the Lord by how they obeyed.*

What was their second responsibility?  
*Their second responsibility was to teach God's Word to their children.*

Why was it so important for the Israelites to know the Word of God?  
*So they would not forget the Lord.*

How should we love God?  
*We should love God with a sincere and complete love. Nothing compares to God, and nothing should come between you and God.*



### The Silent Game

Set the students in small groups at tables. Give them PlayDoh, but tell them they can play with it only if they are quiet. If they are not quiet, you will take it away. Monitor when you should give and take away the PlayDoh. After play time, talk about what happened and how it relates to today's lesson on God's promises, Israel's choice to obey or disobey, and God's blessings and curses on Israel.



### What Is Disobedience?

Before beginning the lesson, ask the students to tell you what disobedience is. Answers may include: lying, cheating, stealing, etc. Disobedience is sin. It is doing something that you were told not to do or not doing something that you were told to do. Explain that God told Israel to obey His instructions. But they chose to do what they wanted and disobeyed God.



## Love God and Keep His Commandments

This game is a variation of “Mother May I?” Instead of saying, “Mother may I?” when a command is given, have the student say, “Love God and keep His commandments.” Pull a command out of a bag and read it. If the student remembers to say, “Love God and keep His commandments,” he gets to move as the command says. If he forgets, he must go back to the starting line. When students obey the commands, they move one step closer to the Promised Land.

Ideas for commands: Take one giant jump over Jordan’s bank or two small jumps over Moab’s rocks; spin or turn like the wind; take 10 little steps, a fast step, or Joshua’s giant step; donkey trot two steps; move a camel’s length or a fuzzy lamb’s length; run four steps toward Jericho; etc. The first student across the line arrives in the Promised Land.



## Blessings and Cursings

In Deuteronomy, we hear a lot about blessing and cursing. What are these blessings and curses, and what do they do? In the Old Testament, a blessing or a curse could be a way of saying that a good or bad thing would happen to someone else. When God was happy with someone for something he did, God would give a blessing. It was a gift. It was something that made the people getting the blessing very happy. For example, rain could be a blessing because it makes plants grow and provides water to drink and food to eat. On the other hand, if someone was disobedient, God would give a curse to him; this was the opposite of a blessing. A curse might be no water, sick family members, or sick animals. This was something that would make the person getting the curse very sad. Are curses something that we see today? No; we no longer are blessed as Israel was for doing good or cursed for doing bad. We do have consequences for doing wrong things, and sometimes we get rewarded for doing the right thing, but not in the same way that Israel was cursed and blessed. Our reward will be blessings in heaven with God. For those who do not accept Jesus as their Savior, their curse will be punishment in hell forever.



## Blessed for Obedience

How do you know when your parents are happy with you? Often they will tell you that you have done well. Sometimes they will give you a reward when you have been obedient. In today’s lesson, Moses reminded the people of Israel that God would bless them if they were obedient to His commands. If they followed God’s Word, they would be blessed in the land that they were about to enter.



## What Is Faithfulness?

Discuss with the class what being faithful means. If someone is faithful, it means that he is reliable and that you can trust him. If people say they will do something and they always do it, they are faithful. Would God be faithful to Israel no matter what Israel did? Yes; God is perfect, and He never can be unfaithful. Could Israel fail and be unfaithful? Yes, because the nation was made up of sinful men, women, and children.

## PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

*“Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done” (Psalm 78:4).*

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included that you can use to proclaim your worship to God. Use the lesson questions to check the students’ understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use during the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done directly from the Bible.

### Bible Lesson

#### Reading of the Text

Read Deuteronomy 11:8–17.

#### Introduction

Do you want to be blessed by God? Do you want to be pleasing to God? If we obey God, we will receive His blessings. These are not necessarily blessings here on this earth, but are blessings in heaven—spiritual blessings. But what if we disobey God? Does He overlook our disobedience? Are there consequences for disobedience? If so, what are they? We will learn about this in today’s lesson.

#### Leadoff Questions

**LOQ:** What did Moses command the people of Israel?

**Answer:** Moses commanded the people to love the Lord with all their heart, soul, and mind.

**LOQ:** Why should Israel love the Lord?

**Answer:** He is the one true God. He created them, He delivered them from Egypt, and He led and sustained them through the wilderness.

**LOQ:** How could the Israelites show that they loved the Lord?

**Answer:** By obeying Him, by giving thanks to Him through prayer and songs, and by defending His Word and His name against those who would not respect them.

**LOQ:** How could the Israelites serve the Lord?

**Answer:** By following Him only, by doing His will, by living for the purpose of His glory, and by giving their lives to Him.

**LOQ:** Why did the Israelites have to be commanded to love and serve the God who loved them so much?

**Answer:** They were sinful and easily forgot the Lord and what He had done. They would rather serve other gods because of their sinful hearts. They had to be reminded that they were a sinful, rebellious, and proud people.

**LOQ:** Why did God choose them for His own people?

**Answer:** He loved them (Deut. 7:6–8).



**LOQ:** What is the first thing God promised Israel if they loved and served Him?

**Answer:** He would give them rain in due season. This would help their crops to grow and would provide them with food and water.

**LOQ:** What is the second thing God promised to give them for their love and service to Him?

**Answer:** He would give them grass for their cattle. The cattle would have plenty of grass to eat, which would cause them to be healthy and strong. This would cause their herds to increase.

**LOQ:** In what condition would the people be as a result of God's blessing?

**Answer:** They would be full and content. They would never be without enough food. There would never be a food shortage in the land as long as they loved and served the Lord. This was a promise from the one true God.

**LOQ:** What does the word "deceive" mean?

**Answer:** It means to trick, or to not show the truth of the matter.

**LOQ:** What would happen if the Israelites were deceived?

**Answer:** They would turn away from the one true God and worship false gods.

**LOQ:** Which commandments would that break?

**Answer:** The first two. (See Exodus 20:3–5.)

**LOQ:** To what part of their lives did God promise to send these curses?

**Answer:** God promised to send these curses to every part of their lives. He would destroy all they tried to do. If they tried to build a city, God would destroy it. If they tried to grow crops, God would destroy them. If they went to war against their enemies, God would destroy the Israelites. Every part of their lives would be affected by His curse.

**LOQ:** How long would the curses last?

**Answer:** Until Israel was destroyed.

**LOQ:** Why would God curse the Israelites?

**Answer:** God would curse the Israelites for doing evil and forsaking Him. To forsake is to leave something behind or to abandon something that was once held tight and dear.

**LOQ:** How can a person forsake God?

**Answer:** A person can forsake God by turning away from Him, not listening to Him, and disobeying His commands.

**LOQ:** How could all these curses be avoided?

**Answer:** By being obedient to God's instructions and worshiping Him alone.

**LOQ:** What were the two motivations Israel was given to remain obedient?

**Answer:** The first was because of God's mercy and faithfulness in the past. Second, their blessings in the new land were dependent upon their obedience to God's Word in the future.



## Summary

The promised blessing from God to the Israelites who loved and served Him was that they would live in the land and always be full. He would give rain for the land and grass for the cattle. However, if they chose to serve and worship other gods, God promised to stop the rain, and the Israelites would perish.

## Application

Just as God promised to bless Israel if they would love and serve only Him, so today believers are blessed for obedience. We are not blessed primarily with physical things, but with spiritual, heavenly blessings. We also are able to have fellowship with God when we are obedient. Those who love God have confessed that they are sinners and are guilty before God. They have repented of their sins and have asked Jesus Christ to forgive them and to save them from their sins. They know they can do nothing to earn God's favor and have put all their trust in Jesus Christ. They believe that He died on the cross for their sins and that three days later He rose from the dead.

To believers, God has promised many blessings. One is the blessing of heaven. They will be in the presence of God forever, in a place where there will be no more tears, no more death, no more mourning or pain. It is a place of eternal joy and peace because there will be no sin.

There is also a promise made to those who do not love the one true God. Those who serve and worship other gods will be sent to a place of everlasting torment where there will be "weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 8:12). Instead of being in the presence of God, His holy angels, and His people, they will be in the presence of the devil, his demons, and all those who had served and worshiped other gods. God blesses those who love and serve Him only, and He will punish those who worship and serve other gods.

## Presentation Ideas



### A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards

Use appropriate A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards with the lesson.



### Betty Lukens Flannelgraph

Use appropriate flannelgraph pieces with the lesson.



### Following Directions

Bring in a simple object to assemble. Follow the directions. Explain to the students that God also has plans for our lives. In order for our lives to be pleasing to God, we must obey His directions, found in the Bible.



### Blessings and Curses

To illustrate the blessings and curses on the land, bring in two plants. The first will be illustrated in this week's lesson and should be a very healthy plant that has been watered and taken care of. The second plant will be brought in next week. This plant will be dead because of lack of water. Talk about why rain was so important for the land and the children of Israel.



## Skit

This skit is set in Bible times. Choose a student to play Moses and several students to play the Israelites.

Prepare Moses and the Israelites by giving them lines to read. (This skit could be expanded into the entire lesson.)

[Moses walks in dressed in a robe.]

Moses: Israelites, I have some big news to talk to you about today. I need you all to come around and listen very carefully. [Students dressed as Israelites come around and sit, listening carefully.]

For 40 years, we have wandered in the wilderness because we were not obedient to go into the land as we were commanded. Very soon, you will again be told to enter the Promised Land. This is what God promised to your forefathers many years ago. I have told you how you must behave as you enter the land. All the words that I have spoken to you, you must obey. Today, I offer you a choice. You can either obey God's instructions and be blessed in the land with rain for your crops, food to eat, and healthy children and animals, or you can be disobedient and follow other gods. If you choose to disobey, you will be cursed. There will not be rain for your crops, your animals will die, and you will not have any food. There will be terrible diseases, and everything that you try to do will fail. The sun will be hot on your head, and the land will be rock hard. Other nations will come and attack you, and they will win. Eventually, you will be destroyed and sent out of the land that you were promised. Will you obey God's instructions and follow Him only?

The congregation: Yes; we will do all that God has told us to do.

Narrator: So all the people promised that they would obey God's words and follow no other gods but Him. In the next few weeks, we will find out whether Israel kept their promise to obey God and follow only Him.

## Praise and Worship

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

*I Love You, Lord*

*I Will Delight (In the Law of the Lord)*

*Living for Jesus*

*O-B-E-D-I-E-N-C-E*

*Seek Ye First*

*The Wise Man and Foolish Man*

*Thy Word*

*Trust and Obey*

*I Will Sing of the Mercies*

*In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified*

*Thou Art Worthy*

## PRACTICE THE TRUTH

*“That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments” (Psalm 78:7).*

Choose ideas from this section to review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



### Cause and Effect

There are a variety of games to play to demonstrate the principle of cause and effect, an important element of today's story. (When Israel obeys, they get God's promised blessings; when they disobey, they get curses.)

**Ball Rolling:** Decide what will cause an item to roll to the finish line: kicking a ball with foot; bumping it with hand, head, or elbow; or blowing on a balloon.

**Bag of Cards:** In a bag, put several green cards and red cards cut from construction paper. The students will start at a line and move toward the finish line. Each student draws a card. When the card is green, he goes two steps forward. When the card is red, he goes one step back.



### A Handy Reminder

**Materials:** construction paper, crayons or markers, yarn, hole punchers

**Directions:** Have each student trace his hand onto construction paper. Punch holes on each side of the index finger, and thread one piece of yarn through the holes; tie into a bow on the front side of the paper. Students may also color their hand tracings.



### Blessings and Cursings Card

**Materials:** 8.5x11-inch white cardstock, copies of the two “Blessings and Cursings” craft pages, 3x5-inch pieces of green and brown construction paper, stickers or other decorations, glue, scissors, crayons

**Directions:** Fold both ends of a piece of cardstock into the center to fold a tri-fold card. On the left-hand cover, glue the heart and Bible verse from the first “Blessings and Cursings” craft page. Color the heart red. On the left-hand inside of the card, glue a pop-up of green hills and the additional information about blessings. (To make the hills: Fold a piece of green construction paper in half, and then fold each end to the center for make an accordion. Cut one edge to make hills.) Decorate the inside center of the card with people, cows, fruits and vegetables, and rain and rainbows to represent God's blessings. On the right-hand cover of the card, glue the heart and Bible verse from the second craft page. Color the heart black. On the right-hand inside of the card, glue a pop-up of brown hills and the additional information about curses.



### How Has God Blessed You?

What are things that you are thankful for here on earth and in heaven?

On earth—loving family, food to eat, house in which to live, a pet, a church to go to, good friends, etc.

In heaven—a place prepared to be in God's presence, to be able to worship Him, no sadness, to be with other family members who are believers, etc.



### **“Blessings and Curses”**

Use this work sheet to review the key truths of today’s lesson. It is located at the back of the lesson.



### **Blessings and Curses Memory Game**

This game is similar to the game “Memory.” Prepare cards with a command that God gave Israel written on each card. Each card should have a duplicate. Divide the class into two teams. Write each team's name on the board, and underneath each team, make two columns: “Blessings” and “Cursings.” Lay all the cards face down in a grid pattern on the floor (or on a table).

To begin play, have the first team turn over a card, memorize the command written on it, and then turn the card back over. The team then must recite from memory the command on the card. If they do so correctly, they can turn over another card to try to make a match. If they recite the command incorrectly, the second team may try to correctly recite it and then turn over another card to make a match.

Each misquote earns a team a “Curses” point. Each matched set of cards earns a team a “Blessings” point. At the end of the game, subtract each team’s “Curses” points from its “Blessings” points. The team with the most points wins.



### **Journal Page: “Choice and Consequence”**

Give each student a copy of the journal page at the back of this lesson. The students can complete the page individually, in small groups, or at home.

### **Coloring Sheets**

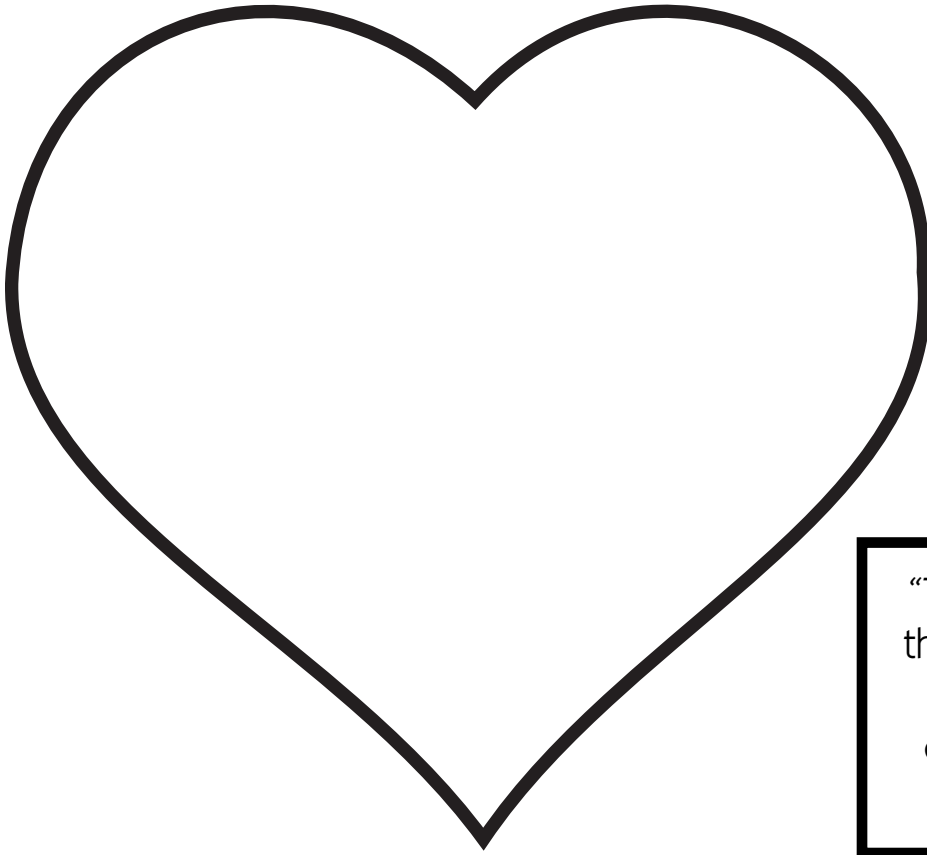
Give each student a copy of the coloring sheets at the back of the lesson. Students can color the pages in class or at home.



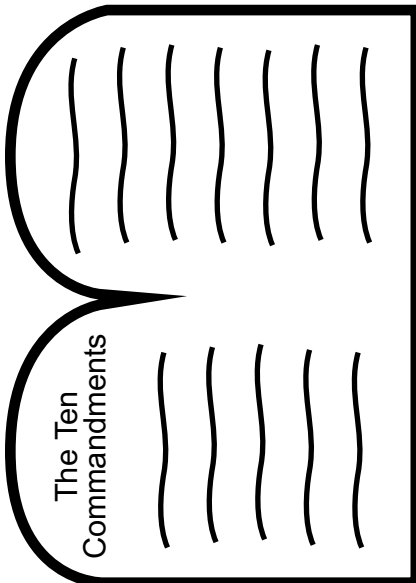
### **MEMORY VERSE**

“Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God...and the curse, if you do not obey” (Deuteronomy 11:26–28a).

# God's Blessings Card



“The blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you today...”  
(Deuteronomy 11:27).



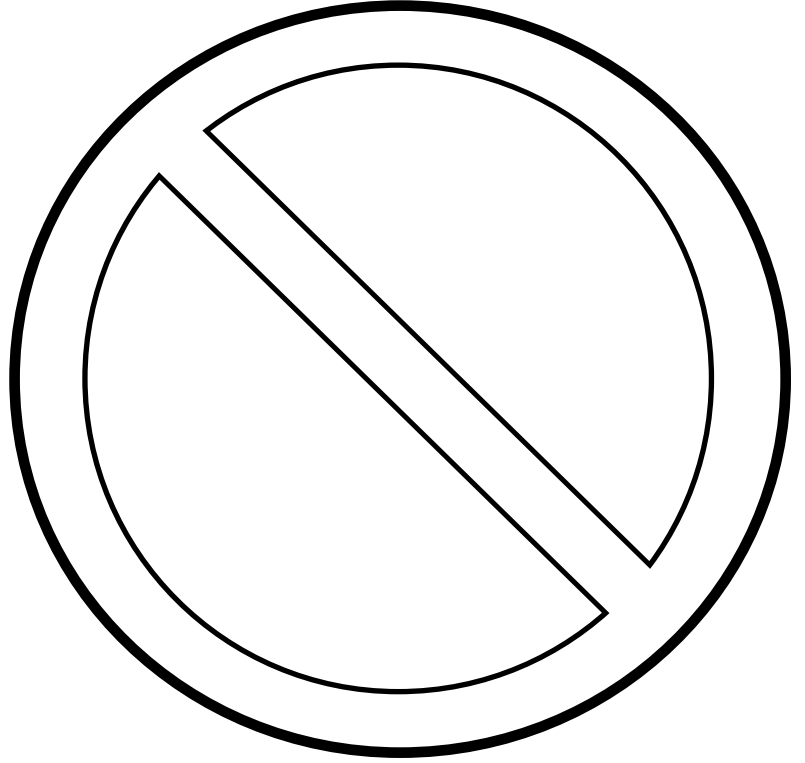
## God's Blessings for Israel in the Promised Land (Deut. 11:8–25)

- Strength
- Prolonged days in the Promised Land
- Land flowing with milk and honey
- Rain for the land and crops
- Grass in the fields for cattle
- Plenty of food
- God would drive out other nations from the land
- Other people would fear them



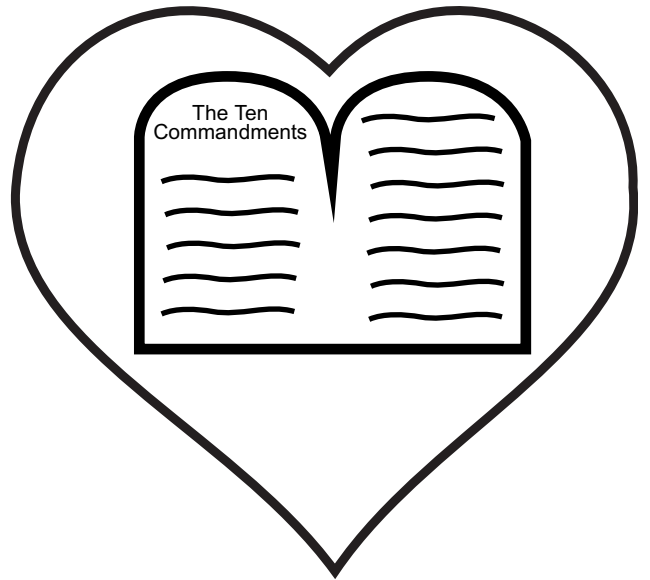
# God's Curses Card

“The LORD will send on you cursing, confusion, and rebuke, in all that you set your hand to do, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, because of the wickedness of your doings in which you have forsaken Me”  
(Deuteronomy 28:20).



## God Curses Israel When They Turn away from Him (Deut. 28:15–68)

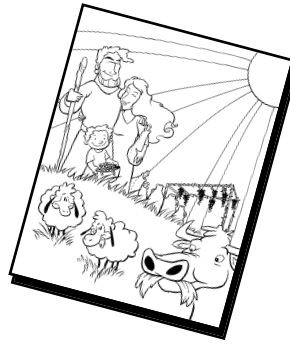
- God's anger would be kindled against them.
- There would be no rain to water their crops and food would not grow from the land.
- They would be defeated by their enemies.
- They would be cursed in every aspect of their lives until they perished from the land.







# Blessings *and* Curses



## Deuteronomy 11

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. God promised to \_\_\_\_\_ Israel if they obeyed His commands and \_\_\_\_\_ them if they disobeyed.
2. God promised to give Israel \_\_\_\_\_ for their land and \_\_\_\_\_ for their cattle if they were obedient to Him.
3. Give one reason that Israel was to remain obedient to the Lord.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What were the names of the two mountains that reminded Israel to be obedient?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. True or False: God promised to curse Israel in every part of their lives if they disobeyed.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. How could the Israelites show that they loved the Lord?  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Choice and Consequence

---

God reminded the Israelites in Deuteronomy 11 that when they disobeyed (sinned), they were punished, but when they obeyed, they were blessed. God reminded them before they went into the Promised Land because He wanted them to make choices that would bring blessing instead of cursing to their new nation.

Below are some of their choices. Write B in the consequence column if the choice brought blessing, and C if it brought cursing.

<b>Choice</b>	<b>Consequence</b>
The Israelites placed blood on the doorposts.	_____
The Israelites made a sanctuary according to God's Word.	_____
The Israelites worshiped a golden calf.	_____
The priests made an offering according to God's direction.	_____
The spies gave a bad report about the Promised Land.	_____
Joshua and Caleb believed God's Word about the Promised Land.	_____
The Israelites believed the bad report.	_____

# Choice and Consequence

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The Israelites worshiped a golden calf.	_____
The priests made an offering according to God's direction.	_____
The spies gave a bad report about the Promised Land.	_____
Joshua and Caleb believed God's Word about the Promised Land.	_____
The Israelites believed the bad report.	_____

God is reminding Israel of His mercy, and as a result of His mercy, He is calling them to love and obey Him. God tells the Israelites to love the Lord their God and to serve Him with all their heart and soul (Deut. 11:13).

Christ reminds us in Matthew 22:37 that the great commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind. When you obey God from your heart, you are pleasing Him.

On the blank lines below, tell how you can obey Christ and show your love for Him this week.

This week, I want to choose to obey Christ in this way:

I can show my love for Christ this week by

On the cross, Christ showed His love for me by

In the space below, write a prayer to Christ, thanking Him for His love.

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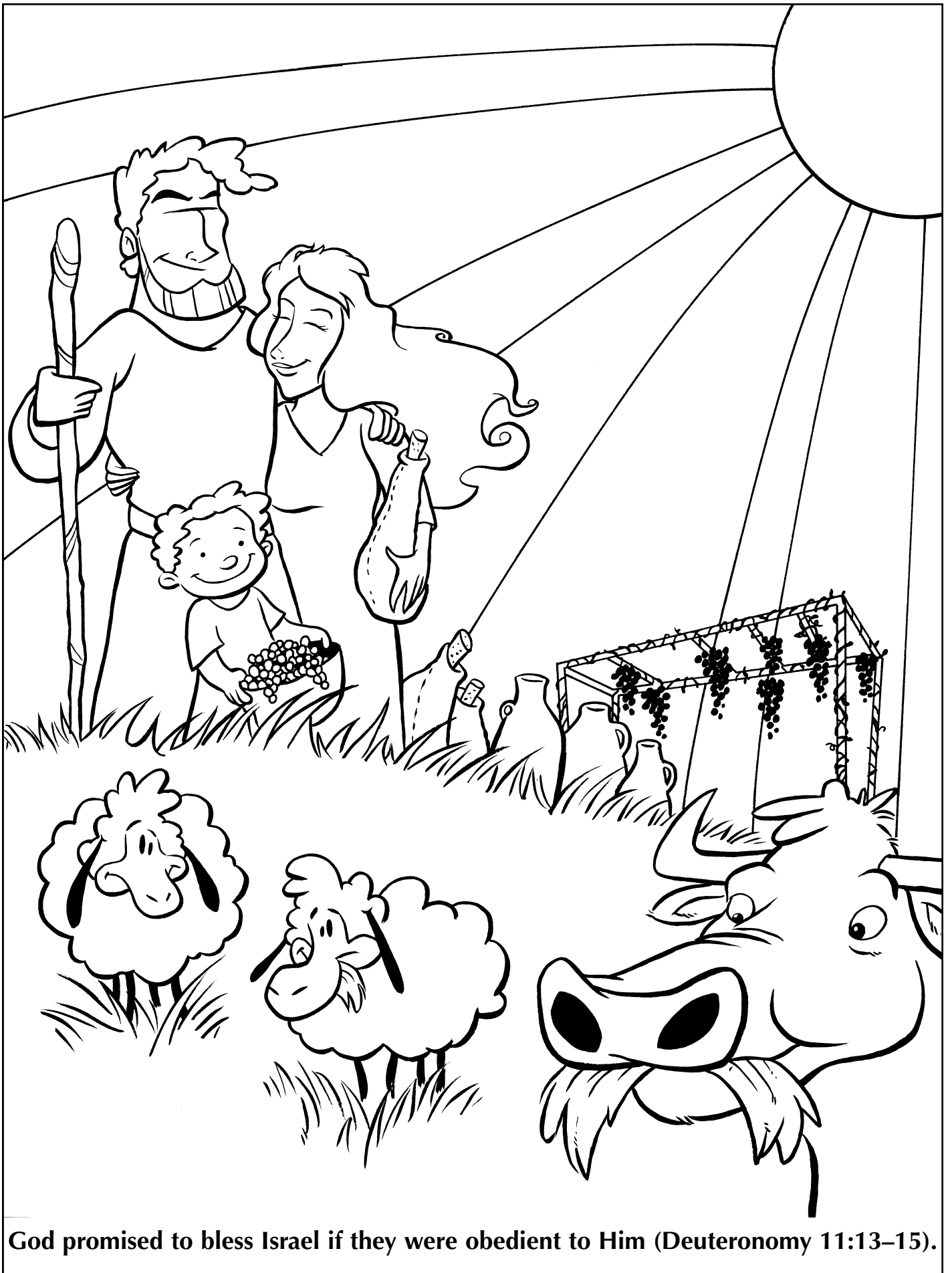
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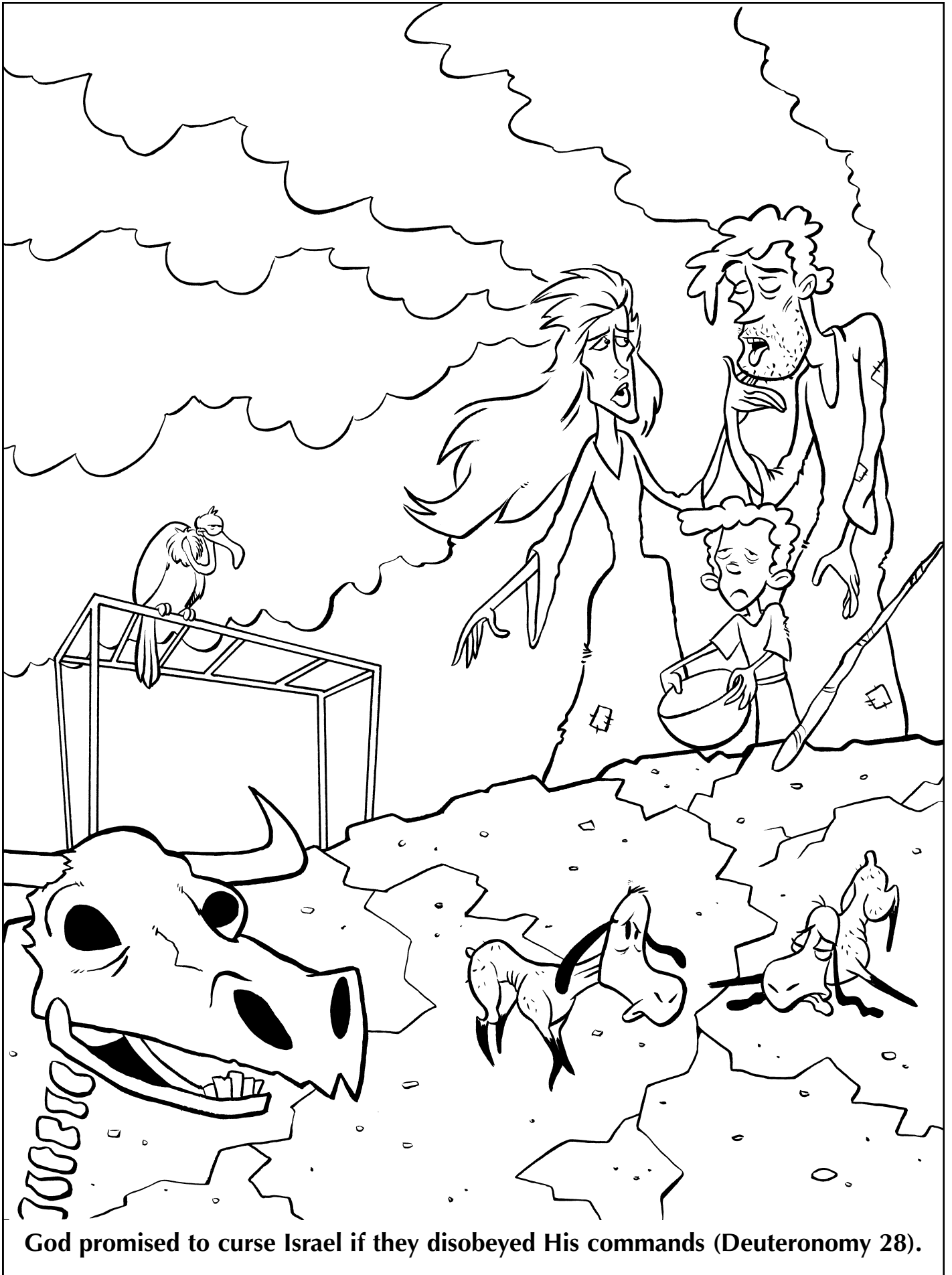
On the cross, Christ showed His love for me by

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God promised to bless Israel if they were obedient to Him (Deuteronomy 11:13-15).

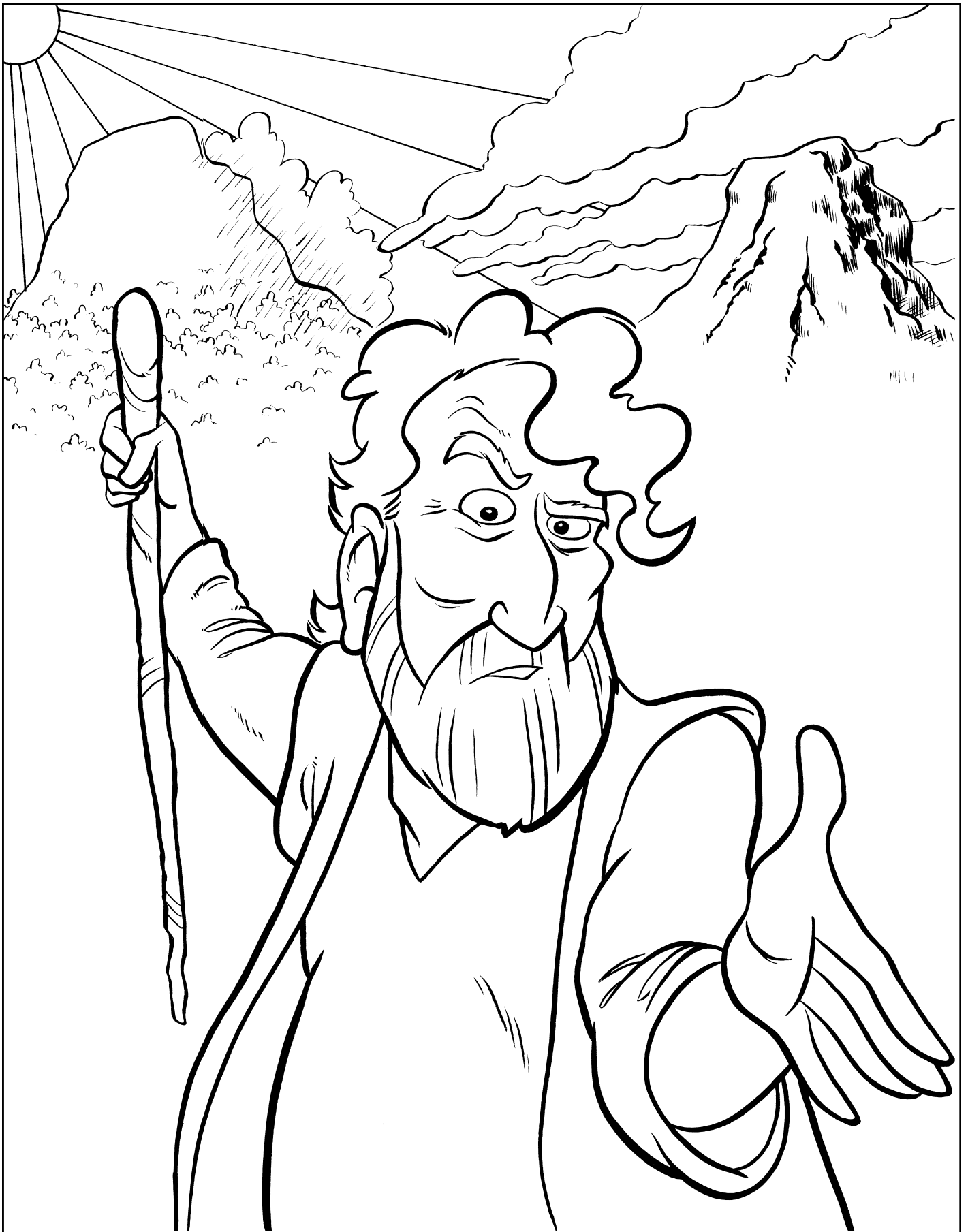




God promised to curse Israel if they disobeyed His commands (Deuteronomy 28).







**“Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse” (Deuteronomy 11:26).**





**“Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the LORD”  
(Colossians 3:20).**

