

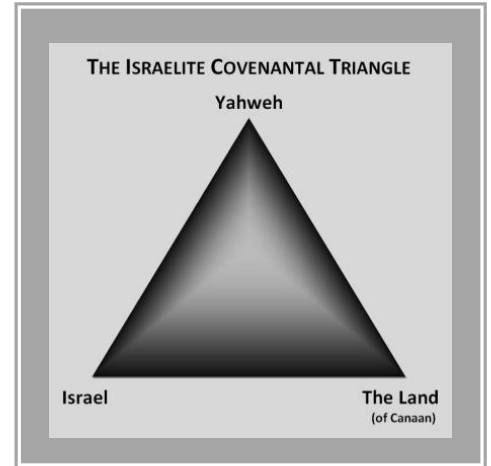
**The End of the Matter**  
**The Conditionality of Covenant Relationship**  
**Deuteronomy 11:8-28**

Veritas Class  
November 18, 2012

- A. A Lesson from History: Reviewing the Mighty Acts of God (11:1-7)
- B. A Lesson from Economic Geography: Recognizing the Gracious Provision of God (vv. 8-25)

A Summary of Israel's Theology of Land

- a. Israel's land is a gift from Yahweh in fulfillment of his covenant promises to the ancestors (v. 9).
- b. Israel's land offers the covenant people a paradise-like context in which to fulfill their destiny (vv. 9–11).
- c. Israel's land is the special object of Yahweh's election and his perpetual care (v. 12).
- d. Israel's land offers the people a geographic context for an ethical response to the covenant (vv. 8, 13, 22).
- e. Israel's land fulfills its intended role within the triangular covenant relationship only as Yahweh providentially enables it to do so (vv. 14–17).
- f. Israel's possession of the land is contingent on Yahweh's giving it to the people, which in turn is contingent on their fidelity to the covenant (vv. 22–25).



**1. The Land as Promise (vv. 8-12)**

- a. The Prerequisite to Life in the Land (v. 8)
- b. The Nature of the Land (vv. 9-12)

**Deuteronomy 8:7–9**

For Yahweh your God is bringing you into a good **land**,  
a **land** of brooks of water,  
of fountains and springs,  
flowing out in the valleys and hills,  
a **land** of wheat and barley,  
of vines and fig trees and pomegranates,  
a **land** of olive trees and honey,  
a **land** in which you will eat bread  
without scarcity,  
in which you will lack nothing,  
a **land** whose stones are iron,  
and out of whose hills you can dig copper.

**Deuteronomy 11:9b–12**

and that you may live long  
in the **land** that Yahweh swore to your fathers  
to give to them and to their offspring,  
a **land** flowing with milk and honey,  
indeed the **land** that you are entering  
to take possession of  
it is not like the land of Egypt,  
from which you have come,  
where you sowed your seed and irrigated it,  
like a garden of vegetables.  
but the **land** that you are going over to possess  
is a **land** of hills and valleys,  
which drinks water by the rain from heaven,  
a **land** that Yahweh your God cares for.  
The eyes of Yahweh your God  
are always upon it,  
from the beginning of the year  
to the end of the year.

**A Comparison of the Land of Egypt and the Land of Canaan**

**Egypt:**

Land where seed is sown  
Land watered by foot

**Canaan:**

Land sworn to Israel by YHWH  
Land flowing with milk and honey  
Land of hills and valleys  
Land that drinks water from the sky  
Land for which YHWH cares  
Land on which YHWH's eyes are

## 2. The Land as Test (vv. 13-21)

	The Passing Grade Deuteronomy 11:13-15	The Failing Grade Deuteronomy 11:16-17
The Human Response to the Test	And if you will indeed obey my commandments that I command you today, to love the Yahweh your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.	Take care lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them;
The Divine Evaluation of the Test	he will give the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the later rain,	then the anger of Yahweh will be kindled against you, and he will shut up the heavens, so that there will be no rain,
The Interim Result	that you may gather in your grain and your wine and your oil.	and the land will yield no fruit,
The End Result	And he will give grass in your fields for your livestock, and you shall eat and be full.	and you will perish quickly off the good land that Yahweh is giving you.

- a. The Passing grade (vv. 13-15)
- b. The Failing Grade (vv. 16-17)
- c. The Prescription for Passing the Test (vv. 18-21)

	Deuteronomy 6:6-9		Deuteronomy 11:18-21	
6:6	And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.		You shall therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul,	11:18
6:7	You shall teach them diligently to your children, and recite them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.		and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, by reciting them when you sit in your house, and when you walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.	11:19
6:8	You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.		You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.	11:20
6:9	You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.		that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that Yahweh swore to your fathers to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth.	11:21

## 3. The Land as Promise (vv. 22-25)

- a. The Condition (v. 22)
- b. The Reward (vv. 23-25)
  - (1) YHWH will dispossess the Canaanites (v. 23)
  - (2) Israel will "possess" the nations (v. 24)
  - (3) No enemy will stand up to Israel (v. 25)

