

**Home at Last!**  
**Veritas Class**  
**April 3, 2016**  
**Deuteronomy 27:9-13**

**C. Securing the Devotion of the People of Yahweh (27:11-26)**

1. The Corporate Blessing and Curse Ritual (vv. 11-13)

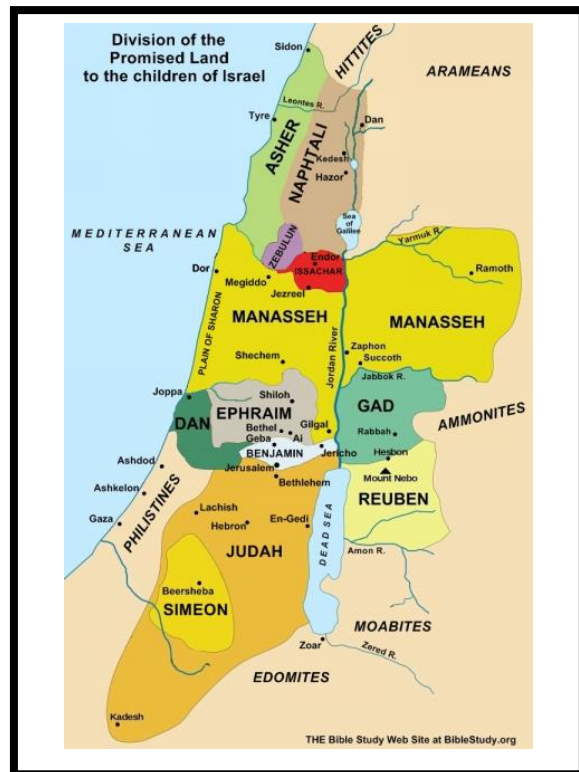
Element	The Gerizimite Tribes	The Ebalite Tribes
Title	These shall stand	And these shall stand
Purpose	for blessing the people (לְבָרֵךְ אֶת־הָעָם)	for the curse (עַל־הַקְּלָלָה)
Location	on Mount Gerizim when you have crossed the Jordan	on Mount Ebal
Tribal Arrangement	2 Simeon (Leah) 3 and Levi (Leah) 4 and Judah (Leah) 9 and Issachar (Leah) 11 and Joseph 12 and Benjamin	1 Reuben (Leah) 7 Gad (Zilpah/L) 8 and Asher (Zilpah/L) 10 and Zebulun (Leah) 5 Dan (Bilhah/R) 6 and Naphtali (Bilhah)

Why on these mountains?

Why this division of the tribes?

Why with a loud voice (v. 14)

What are the blessings and the curses?



The Individualized Curse Ritual (vv. 13–26)

a. The Content and Structure of the Individualized Covenantal Anathemas

Idolatry (secret)	A	Violation of the Supreme Commandment
Dishonoring parents	B	Violation of fundamental domestic order
Moving a <b>neighbor's</b> landmark	C	Violation of a neighbor's rights
Misleading the blind	D	Violation of the rights of the economically marginalized
Perverting the rights of the alien, fatherless and widow		
Having intercourse with one's [step]mother	E	Violation of domestic sexual boundaries
Having intercourse with an animal		
Having intercourse with one's sibling		
Having intercourse with one's mother-in-law		
Striking down a <b>neighbor</b> (secret)	C	Violation of a neighbor's rights
Accepting a bribe in crime against life	B	Violation of fundamental social order
General Disregard of the Torah	A	Violation of the covenant in principle

b. Observations on these Anathemas

- (1) The Greek translation of *'ārûr*: ἐπικατάρατος
- (2) The number: twelve (one for every tribe?)
- (3) The form: Cursed be the one who does . . .
- (4) The addressee: individual (cf. secret)
- (5) The structure: modified chiasm
- (6) The frame: idolatry . . . This whole Torah
- (7) The center of gravity (sexual taboos)
- (8) The pairing
- (9) Some are capital offences elsewhere
- (10) Some call for purging of the land

c. The Significance of the “Amen’s”

d. How did Israel do on these anathemas?

e. What about “the curse of the law” in Gal 3:10–14?

3. How is Deuteronomy 27 my Scripture? What does it teach me for today?

## From the Shire to Mordor

### Two Ways of the Covenant: Blessings or Curse

(Deuteronomy 28:1–69 [English 28:1–29:1])

Veritas Class

April 10, 2016

#### Introduction to Deuteronomy 28

##### A. The Boundaries of the Unit

1. The Conclusion (29:1 [Heb 28:69])
2. The Introduction (26:16–19)

Introduction: The Privilege and Responsibilities of Covenant Relationship (26:16-19)	
The Blessings (28:1-14)	The Curses (28:15-68)
The Pre-condition to Blessing (28:1-2)	The Pre-condition to Curse (28:15)
Formulaic Declarations of Blessing (28:3-6)	Formulaic Declarations of Curse (28:16-19)
Detailed Exposition of Blessing (28:7-14)	Detailed Exposition of Curse (28:20-58)
Colophonic Conclusion (29:1[Heb 28:69])	

##### B. Links between Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28

##### C. The Structure of Deuteronomy 28

1. The Blessings for Covenant Faithfulness (vv. 1–14) (199 words)
2. The Curses for Covenant Infidelity (vv. 15–58) (797 words)