

## Welcome to the Shire

### The Way of Blessing

(Deuteronomy 28:1–14 [English 28:1–29:1])

Veritas Class

May 8, 2016

### Introduction to Deuteronomy 28

| 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])  |  |

#### A. The Blessings for Covenant Faithfulness (vv. 1–14)

1. The Preconditions to the Blessings and the Curses
2. Formulaic Declarations of Blessing (28:3-6)
3. Detailed Exposition of Blessing (28:7-14)

##### a. The Structure

| Reference | Form of the Declaration                | Nature of the Benefaction          |    |
|-----------|--|------------------------------------|----|
| v. 7      | “YHWH will give . . .”                 | Hegemony over other people         | A  |
| v. 8a     | “YHWH will command . . .”              | Fertility                          | B  |
| v. 8b     | “And he will bless you . . .”          | General well-being                 | X  |
| v. 9      | “YHWH will establish . . .”            | Special relationship with YHWH     | C  |
| v. 11     | “And YHWH will cause to prosper . . .” | Fertility                          | B  |
| v. 12     | “YHWH will open . . .”                 | Fertility and hegemony over others | BA |
| v. 13     | “And YHWH will make . . .”             | Hegemony over other people         | A  |

##### b. The Specific Blessings

- (1) The General Promise of Blessing (v. 8b)
- (2) The Promise of Fertility and Material Prosperity (vv. 8a, 11-12a)
- (3) The Promise of Ascendancy over the Nations (vv. 7, 12b-13a)
- (4) The Promise of a Special Relationship with Yahweh (vv. 9-10)
  - Yahweh’s actions toward Israel
  - Israel’s actions toward Yahweh.
  - The nations’ actions toward Israel.