

Introduction to Israel's National Anthem
Deuteronomy 31:16–22, 28–30
Veritas Class, College Church
May 21, 2017

Introductory Issues

1. **The Context**
2. **Introductory Questions**
 - a. What are we talking about?
 - b. Whose song is this?

A. YHWH's Introductory Speech (31:16–19)

1. **The Problem: Israel's Apparently Inevitable Apostasy (vv. 16–18)**
 - a. The Context of the Apostasy: The Death of Moses (v. 16a)
 - b. The Stages of Israel's Apostasy (vv. 16–18)
 - (1) "This people" will arise (cf. Exod 32:6)
 - (2) They will "go whoring" after other gods.
 - (3) They will abandon (עָזַב) YHWH.
 - (4) They will break YHWH's covenant (בְּרִיתִי) that he made with them (יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ).
 - (5) YHWH will be enraged.
 - (6) Many "disasters" [רָעוֹת] and troubles [צָרוֹת] will "find" (מָצָא) and "consume" (אָכַל) them.
 - (7) The people will react with bitterness and anger toward YHWH.
 - (8) YHWH will remain resolute (v. 18).

2. The Solution: A Song! (vv. 19–21)

- a. YHWH's Charge to Moses (v. 19)
 - (1) The Genre
 - (2) The Commands to Moses
 - (3) The function of the Song
- b. YHWH's Rationale for the Song (v. 20)

Deuteronomy 31:16-18	Deuteronomy 31:20-21
<p>¹⁶And YHWH said to Moses, "Look, you are about to lie down with your fathers.</p> <p>Then this people will rise and they will whore after the foreign gods among them in the land that they are entering, and they will forsake me and they will break my covenant that I have made with them.</p> <p>¹⁷ Then my anger will be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them and I will hide my face from them, and they will be devoured. And many evils and troubles will come upon them, so that they will say in that day, 'Have not these evils come upon us because our God is not among us?'</p> <p>¹⁸ And I will surely hide my face in that day because of all the evil that they have done, because they have turned to other gods.</p>	<p>²⁰ Because I will bring them into the land flowing with milk and honey, which I swore to give to their fathers, and they will eat and they will be full and they will grow fat, and they will turn to other gods and they will serve them, and they will despise me and they will break my covenant.</p> <p>²¹ And when many evils and troubles have come upon them, then this song shall answer before them as a witness (for it will not be forgotten in the mouths of their offspring).</p> <p>For I know their inclination which they demonstrate even today, before I have brought them into the land that I swore to give."</p>

c. The Purpose and Function of the Song (v. 20c)

d. The Need for the Song (v. 21d)

3. The Narrator's Conclusion (v. 22)

4. Epilogue (vv. 28–30)

a. Moses' Instructions for the Levites Regarding the Song (vv. 28–29)

b. Moses' Fulfillment of his Last Divinely Mandated Duty (v. 30).