

Israel's National Anthem
Deuteronomy 32:26–35
Veritas Class
November 12, 2017

EXPOSITION

- A. The Exordium: A Call to Acknowledge the Perfections of YHWH (vv. 1–4)**
- B. The Recollection (vv. 5–18)**
 - 1. **Stanza I: Israel's Faithless Response (vv. 5–6)**
 - 2. **Stanza II: The A Call to Remember YHWH's Grace (vv. 7–14)**
 - 3. **Stanza III: Trampling Underfoot the Grace of YHWH (vv. 15–18)**
- C. The Confession: A Call to Recognize the Justice of YHWH (vv. 19–35)**

Stanza 1: YHWH's Justice in Dealing with His Own People (vv. 19–25)

- 1. **Theme Statement: The Announcement of YHWH's Response (v. 19)**
- 2. **YHWH's Disposition toward His People (vv. 20–21)**
- 3. **YHWH's Actions against His People (vv. 22–25)**
 - a. **The Cosmic Target of YHWH's Fury (v. 22)**
 - b. **The Specific Target of YHWH's Fury (vv. 23–25)**
 - (1) **The Thesis Statement (v. 22a–b)**
 - (2) **Seven Disasters in YHWH's Quiver (vv. 23–25)**
 - (a) **Wasting away with hunger (*rā'āb*)**
 - (b) **Consuming plague (*lēḥumē rešeph*)**
 - (c) **Poisonous pestilence (*qeṭeb mērîrî*)**
 - (d) **Wild animals (*ḥāyâ rā'â*)**
 - (e) **The venom of serpents (*ḥāmat zōhālê 'āpār*)**
 - (f) **The sword to bereave of children (*tēšakkel ḥereb*)**
 - (g) **Terror in the inner chambers (*mēḥādārîm 'êmâ*)**

Stanza 2: YHWH's Justice in Dealing with His Own People (vv. 19–25)

1. YHWH's Dilemma (vv. 26–27)

2. YHWH's Assessment of the Enemy (vv. 28–33)

a. They are foolish (vv. 28–30)

(1) The observation (vv. 28–29)

(2) The evidence (v. 30)

b. They are impotent (v. 31)

(1) YHWH is uniquely just, faithful, righteous and upright in his character and in all that he does (v. 4).

(2) YHWH is Israel's father, which means that he alone is responsible for her existence (vv. 6, 18).

(3) YHWH is the eternally sovereign Ruler of the universe, who governs through his heavenly host, divides the human population into their respective peoples and nations, and distributes the territories of the earth among them (v. 8).

(4) YHWH has chosen Israel as his special possession and he governs her directly without intermediary (v. 9).

(5) From the beginning YHWH has cared for Israel, rescuing her from environmental threats and providing her with a land that produces food for her in lavish abundances (vv. 10–14).

(6) YHWH's passion is ignited when his people abandon him in favor of other gods (vv. 19–22).

(7) If YHWH's own people will act like the pagans, Yahweh will treat them like the pagans. True to his word, as expressed in the covenant curses, he sends against them all the forces of death and destruction (vv. 23–25).

(8) YHWH cares about his reputation among the nations. To prevent them from drawing false conclusions about themselves or him, he withdraws his punitive actions against his people, and miraculously grants them victory over their enemies (vv. 26–30).

(9) In contrast to the empty and effervescent gods of the nations, YHWH is the only true and living God, and he alone sustains the universe by his power.

c. They are as doomed as Sodom and Gomorrah (vv. 32–33)

3. YHWH's Verdict (vv. 34–35)