

Deuteronomy 28:1-14

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| v1 – commands | (noun) | instructions that must be obeyed |
| v2 – blessings | (noun) | good things that God does for or gives to those he favours |
| v2 – accompany | (verb) | happens or exists at the same time as, or as a result of, something else |
| v4 – ‘fruit of your womb’ | | your children |
| v4 – crops | (noun) | plants such as wheat that are grown in large amounts for food |
| v4 – livestock | (noun) | animals such as sheep and cattle that are kept on a farm to sell for profit |
| v4 – calves | (noun) | young cows |
| v4 – herds | (noun) | a large group of animals living together, particularly sheep or cattle |
| v4 – lambs | (noun) | young sheep |
| v4 – flocks | (noun) | groups of sheep or goats |
| v5 – kneading trough | (noun) | a narrow open container where dough was left to ferment before being baked as bread |
| v7 – grant | (verb) | permit, allow |
| v7 – flee | (verb) | run away from danger |
| v8 – barns | (noun) | buildings on a farm used to keep crops or animal foods |
| v9 – holy | (adjective) | set apart for God’s purpose |
| v9 – on oath | (phrase) | having promised to tell the truth |
| v9 – ‘walk in his ways’ | | obey him; do as he says |
| v11 – abundant | (adjective) | present in large quantities |
| v11 – prosperity | (noun) | the condition in which someone is doing well financially |
| v11 – swore | (verb) | promised in a serious way |
| v12 – storehouse | (noun) | a building used to store food |
| v12 – bounty | (noun) | something provided in large amounts |
| v12 – ‘in season’ | (phrase) | at the suitable time |
| v14 – serving | (verb) | worshipping |

Deuteronomy 28:1-14 (New International Reader’s Version)

¹ Make sure you obey the LORD your God completely. Be careful to obey all his commands. I’m giving them to you today. If you do these things, the LORD will honor you more than all the other nations on earth. ² If you obey the LORD your God, here are the blessings that will come to you and remain with you.

³ You will be blessed in the cities. You will be blessed out in the country.

⁴ Your children will be blessed. Your crops will be blessed. The young animals among your livestock will be blessed. That includes your calves and lambs.

⁵ Your baskets and bread pans will be blessed.

⁶ You will be blessed no matter where you go.

⁷ Enemies will rise up against you. But the LORD will help you win the battle over them. They will come at you from one direction. But they’ll run away from you in every direction.

⁸ The LORD your God will bless your barns with plenty of grain and other food. He will bless everything you do. He’ll bless you in the land he’s giving you.

⁹ The LORD your God will make you his holy people. He will set you apart for himself. He promised to do this. He promised to do it if you would keep his commands and live exactly as he wants you to live. ¹⁰ All the nations on earth will see that you belong to the LORD. And they will be afraid of you.

¹¹ The LORD will give you more than you need. You will have many children. Your livestock will have many little ones. Your crops will do very well. All of that will happen in the land he promised to give you. He promised this to your people of long ago.

¹² The LORD will open up the heavens. That’s where he stores his riches. He will send rain on your land at just the right time. He’ll bless everything you do. You will lend money to many nations. But you won’t have to borrow from any of them. ¹³ The LORD your God will make you leaders, not followers. Pay attention to his commands that I’m giving you today. Be careful to obey them. Then you will always be on top. You will never be on the bottom. ¹⁴ Don’t turn away from any of the commands I’m giving you today. Don’t turn to the right or the left. Don’t follow other gods. Don’t worship them.

Luke 12:13-34

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| v13 – crowd | (noun) | a large group of people gathered in one place |
| v13 – inheritance | (noun) | money or property which you receive from someone who has died |
| v14 – appointed | (verb) | formally choose someone for a particular job |
| v14 – arbiter | (noun) | someone who settles a quarrel between two people |
| v15 – ‘on your guard’ | (phrase) | very careful because of a situation that may become dangerous |
| v15 – greed | (noun) | the desire to have more and more of something, particularly money |
| v15 – consist of | (verb) | formed from; made up of |
| v15 – abundance | (noun) | a large quantity of something |
| v16 – parable | (noun) | a story from everyday life that also has a deeper spiritual meaning |
| v16 – crop | (noun) | plants such as wheat that are grown in large amounts for food |
| v18 – barns | (noun) | a building on a farm used to keep crops or animal foods |
| v18 – grain | (noun) | a cereal crop, especially wheat or corn, that has been harvested and is used for food or animal feed |
| v19 – plenty | (quantifier) | large amount of something |
| v19 – laid up | (phrasal verb) | stored up |
| v19 – merry | (adjective) | cheerful and happy |
| v20 – fool | (noun) | someone who does not show good judgment |
| v22 – disciples | (noun) | followers; students |
| v24 – ravens | (noun) | a kind of bird |
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| v24 – sow | (verb) | plant seeds in the ground |
| v24 – reap | (verb) | cut down crops and gather them in |
| v24 – storeroom | (noun) | a room or building used to store things away safely |
| v27 – lilies | (noun) | a kind of flower |
| v27 – labour | (verb) | work hard |
| v27 – spin | (verb) | make thread by twisting together pieces of fibre |
| v27 – Solomon | (proper noun) | the richest king in Israel’s history |
| v27 – splendour | (noun) | the impressive and beautiful appearance of something |
| v28 – faith | (noun) | trust, dependence |
| v30 – pagan | (noun) | someone who worships other gods |
| v31 – seek | (verb) | try to gain something; look for something |
| v33 – possessions | (noun) | belongings; things that belong to you |

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| v33 – purses | (noun) | bags used to keep money in |
| v33 – wear out | (phrasal verb) | become thin or weak and therefore unable to be used anymore |
| v33 – treasure | (noun) | valuable object; collection of valuable objects |
| v33 – exhausted | (adjective) | all used up; finished |
| v33 – moth | (noun) | an insect that flies about at night |



Luke 12:13-34 (New International Reader's Version)

¹³Someone in the crowd spoke to Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "tell my brother to divide the family property with me."

¹⁴Jesus replied, "Friend, who made me a judge or umpire between you?" ¹⁵Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."

¹⁶Then Jesus told them a story. He said, "A certain rich man's land produced a very large crop. ¹⁷He thought to himself, 'What should I do? I don't have any place to store my crops.'

¹⁸"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones. I will store my extra grain in them. ¹⁹I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain stored away for many years. Take life easy. Eat, drink and have a good time."'

²⁰"But God said to him, 'You foolish man! Tonight I will take your life away from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

²¹"That is how it will be for whoever stores things away for themselves but is not rich in the sight of God."

Do Not Worry

²²Then Jesus spoke to his disciples. He said, "I tell you, do not worry. Don't worry about your life and what you will eat. And don't worry about your body and what you will wear. ²³There is more to life than eating. There are more important things for the body than clothes. ²⁴Think about the ravens. They don't plant or gather crops. They don't have any barns at all. But God feeds them. You are worth much more than birds! ²⁵Can you add even one hour to your life by worrying? ²⁶You can't do that very little thing. So why worry about the rest?

²⁷"Think about how the wild flowers grow. They don't work or make clothing. But here is what I tell you. Not even Solomon in his royal robes was dressed like one of those flowers. ²⁸If that is how God dresses the wild grass, how much better will he dress you! After all, the grass is here only today. Tomorrow it is thrown into the fire. Your faith is so small! ²⁹Don't spend time thinking about what you will eat or drink. Don't worry about it. ³⁰People who are ungodly run after all those things. Your Father knows that you need them. ³¹But put God's kingdom first. Then those other things will also be given to you.

³²"Little flock, do not be afraid. Your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell what you own. Give to those who are poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out. Store up riches in heaven that will never be used up. There, no thief can come near it. There, no moth can destroy it. ³⁴Your heart will be where your riches are.