

**"Seeing God In 2020"**  
**Deuteronomy 11:10-12**  
**December 29, 2019**  
**New Year's Message**

**The goal for the Christian is to become more like Jesus. But this goal is in part taking place everyday (Life Is Now!)**

**2 Corinthians 6:2 Behold, now is "THE ACCEPTABLE TIME," behold, now is "THE DAY OF SALVATION"— "Life Is Now!"**

The book of **Deuteronomy** records the last words that were spoken by Moses. "Second Law" to this new generation that has been raised up.

**Israel is standing on a threshold of a new land, We stand on a threshold of a New Year.**

Moses is saying **Trust** the Lord in this new land, **Obey** the Lord in this new land, **Cleave** to Him. Stay with God. Do not get caught up with false gods.

**In our passage, one verse describes the Christian walk.  
Deuteronomy 11:11 a land of hills and valleys,**

**Valleys** - speaks of *"the low times, or periods of our life, the hard times the times of trials, difficulties"*

**Hills** - *"the times of refreshments, the blessings, times of bounty and rejoicing"*  
(Mountaintop Experiences)

2020 will have both hills and valleys.

**Thought Of Our Passage:** God Who Permits The Hills And Valleys Of Life, Cares And Is Always Watching To The End Of The Year:

**1. Verse – 11 The Valleys:**

**2. Verse – 11 The Hills:**

**3. Verses – 10-12 The Lord:**

**1. Verse – 11 The Valleys:**

**Deuteronomy 11:11 a land of hills and valleys,**

**Why will God allow valleys in 2020?**

**What possible purpose could God have in allowing such times?**

### **3 Purposes For "The Valley's Of 2020"**

#### **1. Valleys Are Arranged To Teach Lessons:**

There are some lessons that can only be learned through adversity.

##### **David, A Shepherd, Learned Through Suffering**

(The purifying of his life) **Psalm 23:1-6**

##### **Paul Learned God's Sufficiency Through Suffering**

The sufficiency of Christ. (Drawing close to Him)

**2 Corinthians 12:7-10**

**three times that it might leave me.** This is the typical response. God please take it away. God will often not take us from a trial but will take us through a trial.

When the valleys come, we can attempt to **Escape Them**. We can try and **Endure Them**, just put up with them. Or we can **Enlist Them**, allow God to work in our lives for His glory. **James 1:2-4**

#### **2. Valleys Produce Christlikeness:**

Fruit grows in the valleys not the mountains. **Hebrews 12:11**

**Learning Patience** - Learned in the valleys. **Romans 5:3-4**

**We often settle for Comfort over Character**

**Learning Empathy** - Those who have suffered have something to share.

**Learning Humility** - We learn through the valleys that we can't do it without God. That we cannot do it without our brothers and sisters.

**Romans 12:10-11, 16**

**Learning To Be Thankful** - Those that have gone through the greatest valleys know how good they have it.

**Job 23:10**

**Job did not say, I know the way I take.** God alone knows what is best and what is the plan for our lives.

#### **3. Valleys Bring Opportunities For God To Be Glorified:**

In the valleys eyes are watching us! **1 Peter 2:12**

Job silenced Satan. God was on trial in Job, because Job trusted God despite the gifts and blessings. We love and serve Him despite what God gives because of who He is.

**John 11** He whom you love is sick.

## **2. Verse - 11 The Hills:**

**Deuteronomy 11:11 a land of hills and valleys,**  
God will balance our lives in 2020 with both valleys and hills.

We can't have hills without valleys, can't have valleys without hills.  
We want all blessings, but the only way to the hills is through the valleys.

When we look at characters of the Bible we see how God balanced out their lives.

**Abraham's (Valley), no child.** Prays to God, and God gives him Isaac, receives a **(Hill)**. Then God says, sacrifice him, God gives him a **(Valley)**. Then Abraham trusts God, he sees a ram, and God gives him a **(Hill)**.

**Joseph's (Hill,) loved by his father,** then his brothers throw him into a pit, he has a **(Valley)**.

**Matthew 6:34**

## **3. Verses - 10-12 The Lord:**

**Deuteronomy 11:10 is not like the land of Egypt from which you came,** The land of Egypt is a flat land. (it speaks of boredom, routine)

In contrast, is the land that God was giving to Israel.

**Deuteronomy 11:11** It is a land of variation. There are hills and valleys.

The World is like Egypt. It produces boredom with no satisfaction.  
The World has everything and is always wanting.

**Boredom comes from not having God at the center of your life.**

**Sin leads to boredom.** Sin is pleasurable but it is only for a season.  
You will go from one thing to another, as long as you are living in Egypt.

**Deuteronomy 11:10 water it with your foot like a vegetable garden.**  
This speaks of Irrigation of the land with pumps by foot, from the Nile to the crops.

In contrast to the land of Egypt, was the land that God was giving.  
**Deuteronomy 11:11 "But the land drinks water from the rain of heaven,** God would water the crops.

**Deuteronomy 11:12 a land for which the Lord your God cares;**  
This has been written to Israel but it is also available to us who are children of God. **1 Peter 5:7**

**the eyes of the Lord your God are always on it,**  
The constant care of the Lord over the affairs of life.

**from the beginning even to the end of the year.**  
This whole year will be under the watchful eye of the Lord.  
He will not allow us to stumble or fall.

### **Application: "How To Prepare For 2020"**

- **Make The Church Calendar Your Calendar!**  
*(Word, Prayer, Fellowship, Service, and Witness Matters!)*
- **Get A Good Night's Rest –**  
Learn to say no to commitments that will keep you from being at your best for worship.
- **Prepare For Sunday, Wednesdays –**  
meals, clothes, children. Children should never ask if we are going to worship, they should just expect it.
- **Give Full Attention When Attending The Services –**  
listen for His Message to you. Don't get sidetracked on the messenger.
- **Application.**  
Not how I feel but how I act that really matters.
- **Those Attending 6 Months Or Longer Are Privileged To Serve –**  
*Knowing, always involves practice. Knowing is Growing!*
- **Pray For The Pastors and Wives, Staff, Leadership, Services, Ministries, Preparation time for study. Delivery of the Word.**
- **Pray for the First Lady's treatments for her cancer.**
- **Pray for the protection of God.**  
Leadership is always under attack.