

## March 21 Answers

- 1) Conclusion of Moses' Second Sermon. Moses gave the people instructions for a covenant **renewal** ceremony that was to take place in Canaan. Moses told them to set up large **stones** on Mount Ebal and write on them **all** the words of the law. These stones would serve as a constant reminder of God's covenant with Israel. This shows us how important it is to keep God's word at the **center** of our lives. Moses also told the people about the covenantal **blessings** and **curses** (cf. Rom 11:22; Heb 10:28–29). First, he described all the blessings God promised to give them if they kept His covenant and obeyed His commands. God longed for a people who would **separate** themselves from the world and **walk** in His ways. God wanted more than anything to be able to bless and prosper Israel. How tragic to think of what could have been if only they had followed Him. Moses then described in graphic detail all the curses God promised to bring on Israel if they broke the covenant. God was especially angered by the thought of their **ungratefulness**: "Because you did not serve the LORD your God **joyfully** and **gladly** in the time of prosperity, therefore in hunger and thirst, in nakedness and dire poverty, you will serve the enemies the LORD sends against you" (Deut 28:47–48 NIV). This teaches us that God cares about our **attitude**. We are called to serve Him with joy and gladness!