March 23 Answers

1) Yahweh's Song and the Death of Moses. God's song contrasted His faithfulness and purity with the unfaithfulness and perversity of the people. God gave it to Israel as a prophecy of what would happen in the years to come (Deut 31:16–19). They would prosper from God's blessings, and when they were rich and successful, they would turn away from Him and serve other gods. When many evils and troubles came upon them for their sin, this song would confront them. It would bear witness to God's loyalty and their treachery. This teaches us the importance of songs as an aid to memory. Songs have a tendency to stay with us over the years, and we should use them to instill God's truth in our hearts and minds (cf. Col 3:16; Eph 5:18–19). The same day Moses gave God's song to the Israelites, God told him to prepare for death. Moses pronounced a prophetic blessing on Israel before he died, and he encouraged them to thank God for all He had done: "Blessed are you, O Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the Lord? He is your shield and helper and your glorious sword. Your enemies will cower before you, and you will trample down their high places" (Deut 33:29 NIV). God led Moses up into the mountains of Moab and showed him the promised land. He died there in God's arms, and since then, "No prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face (Deut 34:10 NIV).