#1098 The Door of Heaven and the Gate of God – The Two Eliakims: The second phase of the curse of the second Eliakim (Jehoiakim) and the curse of Elijah (Malachi 4:6), part 10, Deuteronomy 31 and 32 and the Song of Witness

The Song of Witness. The earliest recorded song in scripture is referred to as the *Song of Moses* (see Exodus 15). This hymn was sung by the people of Israel to celebrate God's miraculous deliverance of the Hebrews from the Egyptian army at the Red Sea (Exodus 14:3-30). Another significant song is also called the Song of Moses, but is additionally known as the **Song of Witness**.

The Song of Witness was written shortly before the death of Moses. Israel was assembled, and Moses, together with Joshua (Deuteronomy 32:44), the old and new representatives of the Lord, proclaimed the song (Deuteronomy 32). The reason why it is called the Song of Witness is because the Lord directed Moses to teach Israel a song that would be a *witness* for Him *against* them when they broke the covenant by "whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land," etc.

Key Understanding: The purpose of the Song of Witness was to serve as a future reminder. The idea is that the Lord appointed the Song of Witness for the times forthcoming when the Israelites might insincerely and conveniently remember the Lord's promise to not forsake them and attempt to impute unrighteousness to the Lord. The Song of Witness placed the promised blessings and the threatened curse in their proper perspective. This song was about proclaiming the perfect righteousness of God and convicting the Israelites of the justice of their forthcoming afflictions.



Depiction of Moses looking from Mount Nebo to the Promised Land. The death of Moses is recorded in Deuteronomy 34:1-12.

Deuteronomy 31:19-22 (KJV) Now therefore write ye this song for you, and teach it the children of Israel: put it in their mouths, that <u>THIS SONG MAY BE A WITNESS FOR ME AGAINST THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL</u>.

20 For when I shall have brought them into the land which I sware unto their fathers, that floweth with milk and honey; and they shall have eaten and filled themselves, and waxen fat; then will they turn unto other gods, and serve them, and provoke me, and break my covenant. 21 And it shall come to pass, when many evils and troubles are befallen them, THAT THIS SONG SHALL TESTIFY AGAINST THEM AS A WITNESS; for it shall not be forgotten out of the mouths of their seed: for I know their imagination which they go about,

even now, before I have brought them into the land which I sware.
22 <u>MOSES THEREFORE WROTE THIS SONG THE SAME DAY, and taught it the children of Israel.</u>