

# Loveronomy

## *The Kings' Backstory*

### History

- Exodus out of Egypt
- 10 Commandments
- Up to Promised Land
- Spies
- Fear, sin, and disbelief
- 40 Years of wandering
- Deuteronomy (repeated law): Review
- Joshua (headed into Promised Land)
- Judges (the pre-king leaders)
- 1 & 2 Samuel (Last judge / 1 Kings)
- 1 & 2 Kings (Later kings)
- 1 & 2 Chronicles (Kings of Judah)
- Captivity (by Assyria & Babylon)

### The story of the kings is a sad love story.

Deuteronomy 4:15-20 You saw no form of any kind the day the Lord spoke to you at Horeb out of the fire. Therefore watch yourselves very carefully, <sup>16</sup> so that you do not become corrupt and make for yourselves an idol, an image of any shape, whether formed like a man or a woman, <sup>17</sup> or like any animal on earth or any bird that flies in the air, <sup>18</sup> or like any creature that moves along the ground or any fish in the waters below. <sup>19</sup> And when you look up to the sky and see the sun, the moon and the stars—all the heavenly array—do not be enticed into bowing down to them and worshiping things the Lord your God has apportioned to all the nations under heaven. <sup>20</sup> But as for you, the Lord took you and brought you out of the iron-smelting furnace, out of Egypt, to be the people of his inheritance, as you now are. NIV

Deuteronomy 4:37 Because he loved your ancestors and chose their descendants after them, he brought you out of Egypt by his Presence and his great strength. NIV

Deuteronomy 7:7-8 The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. <sup>8</sup> But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. NIV

Deuteronomy 10:14-15 To the Lord your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. <sup>15</sup> Yet the Lord set his affection on your ancestors and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations—as it is today. NIV

## How to have a happy love story with God:

### Choose the God who chooses you.

Deuteronomy 30:11-20 Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach... <sup>14</sup> No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.

<sup>15</sup> See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. <sup>16</sup> For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

<sup>17</sup> But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, <sup>18</sup> I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

<sup>19</sup> This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live <sup>20</sup> and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. NIV

### Be continually refreshed in his love, truth, and ways.

Deuteronomy 17:18-20 When [the king] takes the throne of his kingdom, he is to write for himself on a scroll a copy of this law, taken from that of the Levitical priests. <sup>19</sup> It is to be with him, and he is to read it all the days of his life so that he may learn to revere the Lord his God and follow carefully all the words of this law and these decrees <sup>20</sup> and not consider himself better than his fellow Israelites and turn from the law to the right or to the left. Then he and his descendants will reign a long time over his kingdom in Israel. NIV

### Destroy the threatening temptations.

Deuteronomy 12:2-3 Destroy completely all the places on the high mountains, on the hills and under every spreading tree, where the nations you are dispossessing worship their gods. <sup>3</sup> Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones and burn their Asherah poles in the fire; cut down the idols of their gods and wipe out their names from those places. NIV