

# The Peril of Prosperity

## A Graphical Analysis of Deuteronomy 8:10-20

Gregory A. Smith

### Remembrance (v. 18)

"And you shall *remember* the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

### Forgetfulness (vv. 11, 14, 19)

"Beware that you do not *forget* the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today, [lest] . . . when your heart is lifted up, and you *forget* the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage [. . .] Then it shall be, if you by any means *forget* the LORD your God, and follow other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish.

### Prosperity (vv. 10, 12-13)

When you have eaten and are full, then you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land which He has given you. . . . lest--when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied . . .

### [Humility {v. 16}]

. . . who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, that He might *humble* you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end . . .

### Pride (v. 14)

. . . when *your heart is lifted up*, and you forget the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage . . .

### Gratitude (v. 10)

When you have eaten and are full, then you shall *bless* the LORD your God for the good land which He has given you.

### Boasting (v. 17)

. . . then you *say in your heart*, "My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth."

### [Obedience]

### Idolatry (v. 19)

Then it shall be, if you by any means forget the LORD your God, and *follow other gods*, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish.

### [Preservation]

### Destruction (vv. 19-20)

Then it shall be, if you by any means forget the LORD your God, and follow other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that you shall surely *perish*. As the nations which the LORD destroys before you, so you shall *perish*, because you would not be obedient to the voice of the LORD your God.