Ki Tavo
Deuteronomy 26-28

MY FATHER WAS A FUGUTIVE ARAMIAN

This parsha contains the line from the Haggadah: My father was a fugitive Aramean. He went down to Egypt with meager numbers and sojourned there; there he became a great and populous nation" Could be a reference to Abraham or to Jacob, but Abraham was not a fugitive and Jacob was not and Aramian.

The point is that the past impinged upon the present, and that God's guidance was what sustained the Jewish people as they retold the story from generation to generation.

BLESSINGS AND CURSES:
The parsha lists a number of curses that will befall the Jewish people if they do not live by Torah.

CURSES:

1. Cursed be he who insults his parents
2. Cursed be he who desecrates another persons land.
3. Cursed be he who misdirects a blind person
4. Cursed be he who subverts the rights of strangers
5. Cursed be he who ridicules his fellow in secret
6. Cursed be he who accepts a bribe
7. Cursed be he who will not uphold the terms of the covenant between God and the Jewish people.

But if you follow in my ways and observe faithfully all of my commandments which I enjoin upon you this day, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations o the earth. All these blessings shall come upon you and take effect, if you will but heed the word of the Lord your God.

BLESSING:
1. Blessed shall you be in the city and blessed shall you be in the country
2. Blessed shall be your offspring
3. Blessed shall be the tools of your trade
4. Blessed shall be your comings and your goings

It is a matter of prospective if we will be for a blessing or if your life will amount to a curse upon others
Note how these curses have to do with how we treat others, how we care for those who are in our community, who we interact with.
Imagine the world we would have if we simply did not permit ourselves to be a curse upon others. That we lived so that we might bring blessing.