

March 13/Day 72

Deuteronomy 5

Verses 1-5

- How many of the people came to hear Moses speak?
- With whom did the LORD make the covenant at Horeb?
- Who had spoken with them in the midst of the fire?

Verse 6

- What had their position been in Egypt? Do you remember everything from which the LORD has delivered you?

Verse 7

- The LORD hates idolatry and compares the act with that of a prostitute, but as long as we live, we will battle idols in our lives.

Verses 8-10

- To how many generations does the LORD visit the iniquity of the fathers?
- What does verse 10 tell us about God's character? Are you writing down everything you learn about God to develop your own systematic theology.

Verse 11

- I have written about this before. (See my book, *Surviving Spiritual Abuse Without Losing Your Faith*). This principle has less to do with swear words, though blaspheming God's name is a part of it, and more to do with not believing He is who He says He is and will do what He says He will do. It is claiming His name, Christian, yet not giving Him glory with our lives, not living an abundant life, or behaving in a manner which disparages His name.

Verses 12-15

- Rest is important. Resting from our works is a picture of the finished work of Jesus on the cross. Hebrews tells us if we have not rested from our works, we are disobedient and in unbelief. If we haven't rested from our works, Jesus is still on the cross. If we haven't rested from our works, we have come short of the promised land. Hebrews 3 & 4, specifically 4:10.

Verse 16

- As we will see, the Israelites are later dispersed over all the earth. This verse is not about dying young if you don't honor your parents, as some teach; this is about remaining in the land.

Verse 17

- Often, we murder others with our tongues; their reputation, their image.

Verse 18

- God expects us to keep our vows.

Verse 19

- We are not to take what doesn't belong to us; materially, relationally.

Verse 20

- We are to live in truth and to tell the truth. We harm others when we are less than truthful.

Verse 21

- The apostle Paul kept the external law and all the stuff the Pharisees added to it perfectly, except the Law showed him his sin in one inward area: "What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet." Romans 7:7. This is the purpose of the law, to define sin. (Galatians 3:19)
- If we have come up in church, we KNOW we are sinners. We have no problem saying, *I know I'm a sinner*. But if we can't name specific inward attitudes and motivations as sinful, we would do well to examine ourselves. And it doesn't count to acknowledge past sin, as if everything we ever did wrong was before we made a profession of faith. We sin now, in the present. We sin specific sins. If we can't name them, there is a problem.

Verses 22-27

- How many of the Israelites heard God's voice?
- Does God still speak to mankind?

Verses 28-33

- What is God's desire for His people in verse 29? What is His desire for us?
- What, according to the last two verses, will prolong their days in the land?

Deuteronomy 6

Verses 1-3

- Remember, the statutes and the judgments are laid out because God is forming a new nation and bringing this nation into their land. He is telling them how they are to live and how their government is to work.
- Why do you think the land of promise is always described as flowing with milk and honey? What would this represent?

Verses 4-9

- These verses are called the Shema. *Shema* means “hear”. This portion of Scripture is spoken daily in Jewish culture. It is kept in a mezuzah and attached to the doorposts of their houses and the parchments are also kept in phylacteries attached to their foreheads as reminders of this text.

Verses 10-15

- What kinds of things would be readily available for them when they enter the land?
- What was the danger for them when things go well and there is plenty in the land?
- Did the surrounding nations worship the LORD as their God/god?
- How seriously does God take idolatry?

Verses 16-19

- Again, who drives out our enemies? Us, by our own power and authority?

Verses 20-25

- What constitutes righteousness (rightness with God)?
- Why do you think God repeats this information, about Him bringing them out of slavery, so often?

Deuteronomy 7

Verses 1-6

- Who will clear away opposing nations?
- Were the people allowed to make covenants with other nations?
- Were they allowed to intermarry with these nations? Why or why not?
- What were they to do with the images of idols and the altars and pillars devoted to idols?
- What is our example here? Are there any pillars we need to smash personally?

Verses 7-11

- Did God choose them because they were a mighty nation?
- To how many generations does the LORD keep His lovingkindness to those who keep His covenant?
- What happens to those who hate Him?
- Have you noticed that hating Him and not obeying are synonymous in these passages and so are loving Him and keeping His commandments/obeying Him.

Verses 12-16

- What does God do with His covenant and lovingkindness? A “keep” is an innermost turret of a castle. The most precious treasure is kept there. It is surrounded by sentries both day and night. What is the picture if the LORD say He will “keep” you?
- In what ways will the LORD protect and prosper them if they obey Him?

Verses 17-26

- What were they to remember when they feared great nations?
- Describe how the LORD will take care of these nations for them?
- What are they not to covet? Why? A snare is a trap.

See you tomorrow.