



### Deuteronomy 4-7

1. . Constantly explaining and reiterating what God has done (the historical context) (1:5-3:29, 4:3-4, 10-14, 20-22, 45-49, 5:2-6, 22-31, 6:20-23, 7:7-8, 17-19), what God requires or promises and Who God is (the theological context) (4:1-2, 5-9, 15-19, 23-40, 5:1, 32-33, 6:1-4, 10-19, 24-25, 7:6, 9-16a, 20-24) is essential to establishing: 1) God's justice (4:41-43, 6:25, 7:16b) and 2) covenant laws (4:44-45a, 5:7-21, 6:5-9, 7:1-5, 25-26).
2. Obeying God's "commandments/statutes/rules" is the repeated prerequisite to possessing: 1) abundant life/God's promises and avoiding God's wrath (4:1, 3-4, 40, 5:29-33, 6:17-19, 7:9-26), 2) a good reputation with outsiders/evangelizing others (4:6-8).
3. Obeying God's "commandments/statutes/rules" requires: 1) continual instruction (4:1, 5 – "taught" [perfect participle – continually teaching], 14, 5:1, 6:1), 2) not adding or taking away from the list (4:2, also 5:32 – "You shall not turn to the right hand [add] or the left [take away]"), 3) carefulness & diligence (i.e. investing lots of time and energy) (5:1, 32, 6:3, 17).
4. According to God, we are to "be careful to do" or obey His commands *versus* what Evangelical Christianity teaches: we are to be careful not to stress obedience to God's commands (5:1, 32, 6:3).
5. Apostasy will eventually happen to those who are not diligent – i.e. investing lots of time and energy in their spiritual walk (6:17, 4:9a – "lest you forget...lest they depart from your heart" – Heb 3:12-13; "diligently" = "might" – see 6:5; 2Pe 1:5-11; Pro 4:23).
6. Loving and fearing God means you: 1) obey God and teach your kids to obey God (4:9b-10, 6:1-7, 20-25), 2) spend so much time thinking and talking about His commands that it becomes your personal reputation and the reputation of your house (4:9, 6:6-9), 3) are actively thankful (i.e. always remembering and thanking God as the source of good things to you) (4:9 – "lest you forget the things your eyes have seen" = No longer actively thankful; 6:10-12), 4) are actively trusting Him for all things (4:9 – "lest they depart from your heart" = No longer actively trust; 6:13-16).
7. People agree to enter into covenant relationship w/God thru: 1) coming to His mountain (4:11; Heb 12:18-24 = Under the NC, that "mountain" is the church), 2) hearing and agreeing to obey His Law (4:12-13 – "the Ten Commandments"; Notice "covenant" = God's laws; Exo 24:3, 7).
8. God is very intolerant of all forms of disloyalty (i.e. He is "a consuming fire, a jealous God") due to idolatry (4:15-28, see also 6:14-16 – "His anger be kindled against you", 7:1-5, 25-26 – "an abominable thing"; Re: Moses, see Num 20:12 = Serving/worshipping/possessing/tolerating a false god/religion because of what you believe ["you did not believe in Me" = Who I have revealed Myself to be] or do ["you did not treat me as holy"]) – e.g. Exo 32:1-8 w/1Co 10:7, 14//Deu 32:16-17, 21 and Psa 106:36-38; Psa 135:15-18; 1Co 10:16-21).
9. There are times when others will also have to answer for our sins (4:21 – "you").
10. We will only "find" God (welcoming us into a covenant relationship w/Himself) if we "seek" or "search" for Him "with all of (our) heart and with all of (our) soul...and with all of (our) might" – i.e. only if we come w/hearts and souls ready to invest lots of time and energy into knowing and fully submitting to Him and His ways/laws (4:29 w/6:5).
11. God's promise to each generation of Abraham's natural descendants (the Jews) is irrevocable (4:29-31 w/Rom 11:29).
12. The accounts of God's self-disclosure to Israel (4:32-33), and surreal deliverance of Israel (4:34) points to the fact that what we possess as Christians is the true (and only) God of "heaven above" and "earth beneath" since no other religion can attest to such personal encounters or events in relation to their god (4:32-39).
13. B/C God is a "jealous God": 1) the consequences of our disloyalty ("hate me") will affect our children for several generations (5:9 – "third and fourth generations"), 2) the blessings of our loyalty ("love me and "keep my commandments") will affect our children for many generations (5:10 – "thousands").

#### 14. The Ten Commandments:

1) sum up all of God's covenant expectations found elsewhere (5:7-21 w/22-33 – most esp. 30-33)

2) provide the law categories of:

2.1) loyalty (sin = treason) (5:7, see also 6:4)

2.2) orthodoxy (sin = idolatry/heterodoxy) (5:8-10)

2.3) covenant (contract/oath/promise) fidelity (sin = fraud) (5:11, see also 6:13; Lev 19:12; Mat 5:33-37)

2.4) orthopraxy (sin = heteropraxy) (5:12-15)

2.5) authority/hierarchy (sin = anarchy) (5:16 – “go well with you in the land” w/Rom 13:1-4 and 1Pe 3:13)

2.6) image-bearing (sin = murder/unlawful killing/unlawful unforgiveness/malicious verbal or physical action toward another – Mat 5:21-22) (5:17)

2.7) sexual purity (sin = adultery/sexual immorality) (5:18; Consider Deu 24:1-4)

2.8) private property (sin = stealing)

2.9) truth (sin = false witness/lying) (5:20)

2.10) contentment (sin = coveting/envy/greed/living outside of your means/not being the best version of you but instead wanting/attempting to be someone else) (5:21)

3) are what it means to “love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might” (6:5) - and your neighbor as yourself (Lev 19:18; Mat 22:36-37).

15. We must maintain the covenant relationship w/God we gained by His grace through “keep(ing)” (i.e. faithfully obeying) His commands (4:6, 13-14 w/23-26 w/40, 5:29, 6:12 w/17 w/20-25, 7:6-12).

16. We are not to pity or show mercy to those who serve false gods/gospels or religions (7:1-5, 16).