Deuteronomy 6-7 – 4 March 2021 "Hear...God's Desire For You"

Introduction

- *Exo, Lev, Num is what happened
- *Deut is Moses heart about what happened
- *Paul tells us in Rom 15:4 & I Cor 10:1-11 that these things are written for OUR learning
- *Some of the greatest overarching principle of the Bible are found in Deuteronomy
- *Today in Deut 6-7 will get a reminder of what kind of relationship we're offered to have with our God
- *Have you ever doubted that you're safe w/ God? Maybe He'll cast you out at any moment? Let Moses today remind us of the character of God
- *Today we'll look at 4 points showing that God desire is for us to be empowered by a <u>relationship</u> that is <u>spiritual</u> & that is <u>revering the Savior</u>"

1st Part of God's desire for us is to come into relationship, not religion (Chap 6:1-9)

Read Chap 6:1-2

- 1. These things speak of a lifestyle, not an event
 - a. Commandments (past), statutes (enactmentspresent), judgements (verdicts future)
 - b. Be taught God's law, to fear God, do them
 & teach them to the next generation, so you
 may live long
- 2. Perpetual receiving and giving of the law

Read Chap 6:3

- 1. Serving God's way will physically bless you
- 2. In giving to God, He gives back
 - a. This is on-going interaction
 - b. Do you have that?

Intro to 4-9

 Now in vs 4 begins what is called The Great Shema (to hear) Read Chap 6:4

- 1. "One"
 - a. Therefore, He cannot be represented by contradictory images or methods.
 - b. Baal is different than the Lord God, therefore Baal is NOT God.
 - c. Word used isn't the typical word for singular, it's the word for compound unity
 - d. Jesus isn't different that Yahweh, therefore,He is God (Heb 1:1-3 ...express image...)
- 2. Even "God" is plural using Elohim.

Read Chap 6:5

- 1. When we don't love God above all, we have robbed God of what is rightfully His.
- 2. What Jesus called the greatest commandment

Read Chap 6:6-7

- 1. Speaks of a lifestyle of devotion, not an event
- 2. You ask, "When should I have devotions with my family?"
 - a. Answer With every interaction!
 - b. Teaching ur kids isn't just a scheduled event
- 3. This isn't to exclude church attendance, but your daily example is more powerful than your church attendance

Read Chap 6:8-9

- 1. Don't turn heartfelt devotion for God into outward pride like the Pharisees
 - a. They used to brag by making big physical shows of this
- 2. If God's Word isn't in your heart, it's meaningless to display it anywhere else
- 3. Don't turn your <u>breathtaking relationship</u> with God into <u>braggadocios religion</u>

2nd Part of God's desire for us is to focus on the spiritual, not the spurious (Chap 6:10-25)

Read Chap 6:10-12

- 1. That God prophesied bringing them in to the land from the time of Abraham is a spiritual thing
- 2. Gracious prosperity brings the danger of independence & ingratitude.
 - a. Don't forget who brought the prosperity...it wasn't you!
- 3. When <u>physical blessing</u> comes, remember it came from a <u>spiritual Source</u>

Read Chap 6:13-15

- 1. God deserves credit & love for your prosperity
- 2. Don't go after spurious gods looking to have your needs met
 - a. They can't meet needs or bring fulfilment

Read Chap 6:16-19

- 1. Don't become worried about provision (like at Massah longing for water), but trust that as you obey the Law, it will go well with you.
 - a. Fear or faith
 - b. When <u>physical blessing</u> DOESN'T come, remember it's in the hands of a <u>spiritual Source</u>
- 2. Just to cast out their enemies would take spiritual faith!
- Read Chap 6:20-25
 - 1. Teach others of <u>your</u> identity in God
 - a. That your spiritual identity is more important than your job title or hobby title
 - 2. Teach others that there is great purpose to life
 - a. God brought us out, to bring us in
 - b. We were in Egypt, slaves to their law & rule, but God make us slaves to His gracious law & rule
 - c. He didn't save us w/o purpose or to leave us

3rd Part of God's desire for us is to have pride in Yahweh, not you (Chap 7:1-8)

Read Chap 7:1-4

Read Chap 7:5-6

- Get rid of all signs of false worship b/c they're to be different than that
- 2. We're to have pride in our God, not promoting other false god's symbols & rituals
 - a. Why use yoga, when we can exercise without using false god's symbols & rituals?

Read Chap 7:7-8

- 1. There's nothing within Israel that made God choose them. He chose to set His love on them.
- 2. He does good to them (& us) not b/c of who we are...but b/c of who He is
 - a. He's a loving, covenant-keeping God!
 - b. Put the focus on His, not yourself

4th Part of God's desire for us is to revere the Savior, not the snared (Chap 7:9-26)

Read Chap 7:9-11

- 1. Notice, it's not about good & bad people. It's about people that either come to or leave God.
 - a. "Those that love Him, those that hate Him"
 - b. It's never been about our actions, but our reverence of God to come to Him
- 2. There's no secret about this ("to their face")

Read Chap 7:12-15

- 1. If we revere God, then He will...
 - a. Vs 12 Keep His covenant & mercy
 - b. Vs 13 Multiple blessings
 - c. Vs 14 Bless more than any other nation and not have any women to be infertile
 - d. Vs 15 Take away sickness
- 2. So don't do after the ways of the unbelievers...
 - a. They are snared in their own vices
 - b. Don't envy them, in the arms of God are blessings and help

Read Chap 7:16-17

- 1. Fear of the enemy's supposed power over them would cause them to NOT destroy the enemy
 - a. The inevitable outcome of this is that you succumb to serving their gods
 - b. Don't allow things in your home that will tear your heart away from God.

i. You go from tolerating it, to embracing it

Read Chap 7:18-19

- 1. What they should do is remember the Lord's great power to deliver!
- 2. The enemies of God have no power, and that will be revealed in due time, so revere God!

Read Chap 7:20-23

- 1. The Lord will destroy the enemy little by little
- 2. He'll only give you what you can handle
 - a. God, why do I still have all these financial troubles? You can't yet handle the temptation of more money
 - b. God, why don't I have a bigger sphere of influence? You can't yet handle it without becoming prideful.

Read Chap 7:24-26

- 1. Destroy every idol and item <u>used in false</u> <u>religious practice</u>, they cannot be redeemed
- 2. This will be the violation of Achan at Ai

Conclusion

So Deut 6-7 shows God's desire for us:

To be empowered by a <u>relationship</u> that is <u>spiritual</u> with <u>the Savior</u> we <u>revere</u>

- 1. Come into relationship, not religion
 - a. God's looking for a lifestyle, not an event
 - i. Events motivated by many things
 - ii. Lifestyle motivated from the heart!
- 2. Focus on the spiritual, not the spurious
 - a. We're in a spiritual fight
 - b. When faced with a physical problem, remember that the answer is a spiritual one

3. Have pride in Yahweh, not you

- a. There's nothing within us that made God choose us
- b. We only overcome but His power within us
- 4. **Revere the Savior, not the snared**
 - a. There's nothing in the enemy that can stop us, if we simply abide in the vine of God's love