

Deuteronomy 4-5 – 18 February 2021

“Where To Start Applying God’s Word”

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

*Moses heart opened Deut in chap 1-3 telling us how to apply the Word (**learn, believe, use & impart it**)

*Now in chap 4-26, Moses reminds us what to apply

*If you were on your death bed, as Moses, where would you start telling those you love what is most important?

*Would you start by learning who the devil is?

*Would you start by learning what angels are?

*Today we’ll see **4 principles for where to start applying God’s Word to our life**

1st Principle for starting to apply God's Word is – Keep the lessons you've heard & experienced (Chap 4:1-14)

Read Chap 4:1-2

1. Keep all that the Lord has given you
 - a. No more, AND no less
2. Applied personally – Hold to what you've learned
 - a. Read Heb 2:1 – God spoke directly to us!
3. Applied universally – What God has given (the whole Bible) grab onto it ALL

Read Chap 4:3-6

1. You've seen the results of (dis)obeying God. It shows wisdom & understanding to obey.
2. The lessons learned are meant to be used again!

Read Chap 4:7-8

1. Israel was given a SPECIAL position with God
2. They learned personally from God Himself
3. Trust these things are true, right and helpful

Read 4:9-14

1. Remember the “God moments” of your life & tell them to your kids
2. Especially pass on the giving of the Law
 - a. Tell them how you met God
3. Part of keep the lessons we’ve learned is having them engrained in our life to the point that we pass the lessons on to our kids.

2nd Principle for starting to apply God's Word is – Worship God in Spirit & in truth (Chap 4:15-31)

Read Chap 4:15-20

1. Don't corrupt the image of God into something earthly or heavenly...He's divine.
 - a. God isn't like anything you've ever seen
2. Physically picturing God, diminishes who He is
3. Read John 4:23 – Israel had temple w/ no 'god'

Read Chap 4:21-24

1. What does Moses not going into the land have to do w/ not being idolatrous?
2. Moses struck the rock instead of speaking to it
 - a. This was a misrepresentation of God
 - b. That's idolatry
 - i. Accrediting to God something not of Him
 - ii. Accrediting to another what belongs to God
3. How are we doing representing God accurately?

Read Chap 4:25-28

1. They'll be sent to Babylon for idolatry - Lev 26
2. As vs 28 says, when you start making false gods in your heart, then you'll have to serve those same false gods with your hands
3. Many people today are more interested in serving the false god of religious tradition rather than reading the Word of God
 - a. They're stuck in their own Babylonian captivity, a slave to man-made rules.

Read Chap 4:29-31

1. Read I Cor 10:13-14 – So the warning to all of us is to not fall into idolatry & mispresenting God
2. But even then, there is repentance b/c there is a merciful God
3. Read Hosea 5:15-6:1 – God is always ready to welcome you in...as long as you have breath

3rd Principle for starting to apply God's Word is – Depend on God's powerful protection (Chap 4:32-43)

Read Chap 4:32-36

1. God is a powerful father to them like no other
2. God has done things for them **THAT THEY COULDN'T HAVE DONE FOR THEMSELVES**
3. He wants us to depend on His protection / help
4. God wants to give you this kind of help too
 - a. Read Jam 4:10
 - b. He's looking for dependence on Him

Read Chap 4:37-40

1. God looks all around and sees no one else that can save or move nations as He does!
2. There is protection living under the powerful wings of the Almighty God, don't get independent

Read Chap 4:41-43

1. Cities of Refuge given - we studied in Num 35
2. Showing God's protection from injustice!

Next verses introduce chaps 5-26 (Chap 4:44-49)

Read Chap 4:44-49

1. This introduces the laws given in chapters 5-26
2. These are not all the laws, but the ones God chooses to reiterate
3. If He choose them, I need to hear them

4th Principle for starting to apply God's Word is – Live a life of love (Chap 5:1-22)

Read Chap 5:1-6

1. The Lord has placed Israel in great position of opportunity, even greater than that of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob
2. To have God's Law is to have His very heart
3. Vs 6 – The Lord has already delivered them from the physical bondage of Egypt
 - a. Now the Law will show them their need to be delivered from the spiritual bondage of sin

Read Chap 5:7-16

1. 1st 5 Laws: re: our relationship w/ God
2. For full study, review our study in Exo 20

Read Chap 5:17-22

1. 2nd 5 Laws; re: our relationship w/ others

Application

1. Jesus said in Matt 5 that these Laws were to be used in action but ALSO in word and thought
 - a. Laws from the heart are motivated by love
2. Jesus was asked which was the greatest Law
3. Turn to Matt 22:36-40
 - a. This perfectly sums up two tables of Law
 - b. Love God & love people
4. Is our lives characterized by love or by rigid actions?
 - a. Read I Cor 13:13 – Love abides forever
 - b. Apostle John death bed preaching “My dear children, love one another”

Being challenged to apply God's Word to your life brings one of two results (Chap 5:23-33)

Intro

1. As you come in contact with God & His Word, it will either draw you in or scare you away.
2. Ever tried to have a spiritual discussion with a religious person & find they don't want to talk?

Read Chap 5:23-27

1. God's glory scared them for life & they wanted distance
2. Why does God's glory & power scare some but attract others?
3. Read Exodus 20:21 & Luk 8:37-38a

Read Chap 5:28-33

1. Lord was sad that the people had fear to come lest they die instead of faith to obey unto life
2. When the awesomeness of God's attention is placed on someone: it's either fear or wonder

Conclusion

So when we think of adjusting our life to a Biblical worldview, what should we think about?

1. **Keep the lessons we've heard & experienced**
 - a. We often stress about what we don't know about God's will, when the real problem is we don't obey the things we DO know.
2. **Worship God in Spirit & in truth**
 - a. You are picturing God to the world, represent Him well
3. **Depend on God's powerful protection**
 - a. Obedience will protect us as we live for Him
4. **Live a life of love**
 - a. The Law isn't designed to point us to legalism but to a life of love

When you're faced with the powerful Words of God, what do you do?

1. Do you run away in fear or guilt?
2. Do you draw near under the awesome glory of God?