

WK4:D2

Welcome to Gods Promise, I'm Dr. Kiley and I'm here to help you apply God's promise to your life.

This week we are looking at the Promise of God's Word. Yesterday we started off with the promise of God's Word and today we are looking at God's Identity and showing you how His character is the basis for that promise.

Universities, high courts, and other organizations study national constitutions primarily to discover the principles and ordinances by which nations are governed. But they should also be studied for another purpose: to discover the heart and soul of the governors. When God delivered Israel's "constitution," He revealed something about Himself.

We can read about it in Deuteronomy 9:10 which says, "*The LORD gave me two stone tablets inscribed by the finger of God. On them were all the commandments the LORD proclaimed to you on the mountain out of the fire, on the day of the assembly.*"

Consider the following five documents: The Covenant of the Islamic Resistance Movement (known as Hamas); The Constitution of the People of Hungary; The 1619 English Bill of Rights; The 1977 Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; and The Constitution of the United States of America. On the surface, these documents couldn't be more politically and ideologically diverse. But they do all have one thing in common: they represent the will of the founders or current governors of the nations they represent.

If we read any of these constitutional documents carefully, we will learn about the identity of its founders. Reading just this preamble to The Constitution, for example, is like reading a character sketch of the authors: "We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

So, it was with the "constitution" that God delivered to His newly born nation from atop Mount Sinai. Perhaps no other nation was ever in more desperate need of guidance and structure than Israel. God's people had been the puppets of pagan pharaohs for four hundred years. Their founder, Abraham, had given them no constitution, and their slavery had afforded them no opportunity to organize or become "constitutional" about life. Following their release from slavery in Egypt, their earthly leader, Moses, found himself at the head of a nation with no constitution.

Fortunately, the Founder of Israel was prepared. God delivered to Moses two stone tablets with the initial set of guidelines by which the infant nation would grow and live. These laws, known to us as the Ten Commandments, became the initial constitution for Israel. And through the reading of these commandments, Israel was able to catch a glimpse of its God. His identity, reflected in His laws, became the mirror by which the Israelites were to find their own identity as a people.

God's Promise: You will find His character in the character of His Word.