

Lesson 7 – Deuteronomy 5-7

Text: Deuteronomy 5-7

Key Passages:

- Deuteronomy 5:29 – God is looking for us to have the right kind of heart.
- Deuteronomy 6:4-5 – This is the “greatest commandment,” according to Jesus.

Outline of Arguments:

Moses second speech in Deuteronomy is recorded in chapters 5-26. In this speech, Moses reminded Israel of the covenant they made with God and their responsibilities to Him. Chapters 5-11 focus on general concepts of obedience while chapters 12-26 focus more on specific commandments God had given the people. We will be looking at the first part of Moses’ speech over two lessons.

- I. Purpose: To teach Israel how to follow God
- II. Introduction to Moses’ argumentation/teaching (5:1-33)
 - a. Setting the context (Ten Commandments/Mount Sinai)
 - b. God’s desire: “...that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me...always...”
- III. “The” commandment (6:1-25)
 - a. This one commandment encompasses all of the statutes and judgments of God
 - b. By obeying this one commandment, Israel would have been prosperous (6:3)
 - c. “The commandment” – follow and love the Lord completely (6:4-5)
 - i. Commonly called the “greatest commandment” by Jews even until Jesus’ day
 1. The “Shema” (“Hear” in Hebrew)
 2. Matthew 22:37, Mark 12:30, Luke 10:27
 - ii. Teaching others (and especially children) is extremely important
 1. Children should be taught at all times to love the Lord (6:7)
 2. One’s love for God should be evident in every aspect of life (6:8-9)
 3. Teach children why we love and serve the Lord (6:20-23)
 - iii. Be careful to continually focus on God, and not on the physical blessings; remember that God is the one that provides everything (6:10-16)
 - iv. Do what God commands and it will go well in the land (6:17-19)
 - v. Remember that God gives us commands for our own good (6:24-25)
- IV. Do not intermarry with foreigners who do not love the Lord, they are to be destroyed (7:1-5)
- V. Israel is a holy nation, not because of their own merit, but because of God’s love (7:6-11)
- VI. God will defend and aid Israel “because” Israel will obey His commandments (7:12-26)
 - a. They will be exceedingly prosperous physically
 - b. They will not be afflicted with sicknesses and diseases that afflict others
 - c. God will destroy those who oppose Israel and deliver them into Israel’s hands

Lessons/Applications:

- 1.) In order to serve God as He wants, we must give Him our hearts (Jeremiah 17:5-10).
- 2.) God wants us to surrender every aspect of our lives to Him (Romans 12:1, Mark 10:24-30).
- 3.) Teaching others, especially our children, is of critical importance (Exodus 12:25ff, Hebrews 5:12).
- 4.) Constantly focus on God to avoid being distracted by things in the world (Hebrews 12:1-2).
- 5.) God does not give us commandments just to give them; He is looking to our good.
- 6.) Intermarriage (or even dating) with those who do not wish to love God is a very foolish decision.
- 7.) God desires to bless us, but the ultimate blessing is contingent upon our obedience to Him.