



THE STORY OF THE WORLD



Remember, Now Obey

Deuteronomy 1-28

Main Idea

Remember the faithfulness of God and remember your faithlessness...Love Him by trusting Him in your obedience.

Overview

- Israel stands ready to receive the final portion of its inheritance that was promised to Abraham (Genesis 15) as they are soon to enter the Land of Promise.
 - Moses explains the Law to them just before they enter (1.5)
 - This is what Deuteronomy is doing so as to ready them for obedience in the Land
- From Chapters 1-5 Moses explains how God has been faithful and they have not been faithful so as to encourage them to trust God and not themselves
 - You see an example of this in 1.30-32
- In Chapter 4.6-9 we hear how Moses calls them to obedience after considering some of His faithfulness so as to display the greatness of God in their land to the world
 - This is the end of their purpose (and ours)
 - The Ten Commandments come just after this as a reminder of the Covenant (Deut. 5)
- Chapter 6-7 are exhortations that come out of the reminders of God's Faithfulness and Israel's faithlessness
 - Deut 6.4-9: The Lord is One (There is ONE God)
 - You shall love Him with Everything! (vs 5)
 - Love for God should be at the core of your being...including your mind (vs 6)
 - You shall "make disciples" of your children in all walks of life (vs 7)
 - Don't segment Gods love...express it everywhere (vss 8-9)
 - This kind of love is born out of Gods faithfulness:
 - It engages all aspects of your life
 - It can be commanded as Love is not a mere emotion (or merely sentimental)
 - It has Trust at its core
 - Chapter 7 Reminds them of how God graciously chose them (no work of their own) and set His love on them: (7.6-9)
 - In light of this: Remember the Lord God is the Faithful, steadfast God (not you) (vs 9)
- Chapter 8.11-20: Don't forget God's faithful activity once you get in the land lest you think somehow you accomplished all of this and in so doing forget God
- Chapter 9 recalls the Israelites failures in the Golden Calf incident

- Chapter 11 encourages them again in light of this to Love God
 - Constant call to not fall into false worship and worship other gods
 - If someone rebels against God and follows other gods shall be put to death by stoning (13.1-5)
 - The Lord demands they “purge the evil” from among them
- Chapters 15-16 Moses encourages wholehearted thanksgiving to the people
 - Moses reminds and establishes various other laws so as to set up the facilitation of the display of God’s holiness in the Land
- Chapter 27: Get on two mountains and on one side the people shout the curses for disobedience
 - The other side pronounces the blessing for Gods people in their obedience
- Chapter 28.8-12: Glimpse of those blessings as a faithful community will scream to the world how wise and good Israel’s God must be and they will also enjoy a sort of “second Eden”

Questions

Discussion Starter: What are some different ways we use the word love? How does this compare to the way the Bible uses the word love? Have you ever seen love that was more than emotion and sentimentality that required work in such a way that it eventually displayed something deeper about love?

1. Read 1:1, 8. What is the context of the book of Deuteronomy?
2. Read 1:30-32. What does this say about God? What does this say about the Israelites?
3. What is the point of Moses recounting all the things God has done? What does this tell us about the motivation for obedience? How is this different from and more freeing that motivation by guilt?
4. Discuss this notion of “trust” or “future grace” based off Gods “past grace”. How is it the same or different in nature from what you have understood a life of love and faith to be towards God?
5. Read Deuteronomy 6:1-9. How is it love can be commanded? How is this notion of love different than how we often think of love?
6. Read Matthew 22:34-40. Why would Jesus say Deut. 6:4-9 is the most important commandment?
7. Read 7:6-11. How do these verses encourage and challenge you? How do these verses point us to the gospel?
8. Read Deuteronomy 8:11-20. What are ways you have “forgotten” God and concluded you have accomplished great things?
9. Read Deuteronomy 28:1-12. Considering this is readying God’s people for the Land of Promise, how are you encouraged by this to live obediently for the forever Land of Promise (Heaven)?

Accountability Question: What are some areas in which you are having trouble trusting God for “future grace”?