

Deuteronomy 5-11

“Remember your God”

Introduction

- Tonight we are going to continue our study in the book of Deuteronomy
 - **The word Deuteronomy literally means “the second law”**
- And that is what Deuteronomy is – it is Moses repeating to the children of Israel everything they have heard before

But before you let that scare you remember even though they had heard this all before, this was a new generation

- It is done differently
 - When the law is given in Exodus and Leviticus and even into Numbers – it is given with great detail to help out the elders who were helping Moses make judgments and it was for the Levities so they understood how many bulls to offer for this sin offering or burnt offering
- This time when Moses reiterates the law he doesn't repeat all that detail, because this time it is for the people – Moses adds emphasis and encouragement as the Lord sees fit

And because of that, this second law, the book of Deuteronomy is one of the most quoted books in the New Testament

- it is third on the list in fact behind Psalms and Isaiah, which understand were pretty important books
 - Jesus quotes from the book of Deuteronomy over and over again and uses it exclusively to fight the temptation of Satan in the wilderness

So the book of Deuteronomy is important

- and we are studying it at the same exact speed in which it was originally given
 - **The book of Deuteronomy is five sermons of Moses given over a period of 37 days**

And we are looking at this book, over 5 Wednesday Nights over a period of 35 days

- one sermon of Moses each Wednesday Night, over the next five weeks
 - except for the fact that next week in Thanksgiving Eve
- The outline for the book we are following correlates with each of Moses five sermons each with a different emphasis of remembering
 - Moses wanted them to remember certain things before they went into the promise land

The Book of Deuteronomy – 5 Sermons

#1 - Remember your History – Chapters 1-4

#2 - Remember your God– Chapters 5-11

#3 - Remember your Law– Chapters 12-26

#4 - Remember your Covenant– Chapters 27-30

#5 - Remember your Leader– Chapters 31-34

Last week we looked at Moses' encouragement to the children of Israel to remember their History

- that each time they choose to follow the Lord and do what He had told them to do, He was with them and fought for them and they were blessed
 - but every time they choose to rebel and complain and disobey, trouble always followed
 - and I bet we could look at our history and make a pretty similar observation

Tonight we are moving on from that look at their history, to now God is wanting the people to remember their God

- we serve a pretty amazing God, and who He is, and how we should respond to that is the point of Moses second Sermon

- as we look at it tonight we will see Moses gets them to see

Remember your God – Deuteronomy 5-11

What He did – Deuteronomy 5

What you should do – Deuteronomy 6-10

What He will do in return – Deuteronomy 11

- lets look at these one at a time

Remember your God – Deuteronomy 5-11

What He did – Deuteronomy 5

- read 5:1-21

Moses wants the children of Israel to remember how blessed they are

- God came down to them and gave them His law
 - Not to Abraham, not to Jacob or Joseph, God came down to them and gave them insight into how they were suppose to live
 - And Moses is getting them to see – this is such a blessing!
- And the reality is the same thing is true for us today
 - It is a blessing that we have the Word of God to guide us, to speak truth into our lives

Some of you can remember before you knew the Lord, and before you were given to His Word

- you remember what it was like to live your life by your own intuition and your own thoughts
 - and what a mess it was, how frustrating it was
 - and then the Lord crashed into your darkness
- and you discovered His Word, as God loving says, this is the way to live – and it was so wise and freeing

And this is what Moses is saying, remember He has given us the way to live

- and Moses reiterates the 10 commandments

The 10 Commandments

#1 – No other gods before me

- there are other things we can worship, there are other things that will compete for our attention
 - but those other things we put in front of the Lord will never satisfy and they will live up to what they promise, God is telling this because again He loves us

So what do we do about those things in our lives?

- well I think the first commandment is not just a premise, that we can worship other and they will not satisfy
 - but this first commandment is also a promise – you shall have no other gods before me
 - in other words instead of being worried about how to deal with all the other things that bid for my attention
- I can just focus on enthroning the Lord in my heart, focusing on Him and no other thing will stand before Him

The 10 Commandments

#1 – No other gods before me

#2 – Don't make any idol

- The first commandment is making sure we are worshipping the right God
 - The second commandment is making sure we worship Him the right way
- You see the ancients would create gods in their image – this is the way we think god is like
 - But the problem with that is God is so radical different and above my wicked heart

And so when I put my image on Him I miss out on worshipping God for who He fully is

- I miss out on worshipping God for who He truly is and I also miss out, because if the goal is to be formed into His image, then I want to proper image in view, not my man made substitute

The 10 Commandments

#1 – No other gods before me

#2 – Don't make any idol

#3 – Don't take the name of the Lord in vain

- Thirdly God tells us to be careful how we use the name of the Lord – only commandment He adds a warning to, because I think we need to hear it
 - We think what the big deal?
 - In our world today the name of the Lord is used to cuss and show anger and to show excitement in our text message – OMG!
- What's the big deal about that?

Well what happens when we flippantly use and listen to on TV and movies the name of God or words like Hell and Damnation is those words experience a terrible trivialization in my heart

- You see as people tried to explained to me when I put OMG in my text message it doesn't really mean God, it just means, that amazing - But you see that is point
 - Jesus is the only name by which man must be saved
 - God is the name in English we use for Yawheh
 - To "Damn" means to be separated from God in a place called Hell

But when those four words are used so commonly to means something totally different – they don't carry the power in my heart, they should – and sometimes we will see the effects not in our lives, but in the lives of our kids - Don't take it – Don't let the name of the Lord be dishonored in your home and in your heart

The 10 Commandments

#1 – No other gods before me

#2 – Don't make any idol

#3 – Don't take the name of the Lord in vain

#4 – Keep the Sabbath

- you would think people would be overjoyed to take a day off, but that is not usually the reaction
 - people either deplore the Sabbath – you will never accomplish anything if you take a day off
 - or they ignore the Sabbath – that sounds good but I just can't take one day in seven and make it different and distinct and honor the Lord
 - or they explore it – Ill try that – which is better than deploring it or ignoring it – but the commandments are not to be explored
- I don't want my son exploring the idea of not killing anyone

I don't want my wife exploring the idea of not committing adultery – ah, well see how this week goes

- Not they are not to be explored

Some adore the Sabbath and get all legalistic – it has to be Saturday and you can do nothing – the church only ever worshiped on Saturday, that is just not true

- They have been worshipping on Sunday ever since Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday
 - The point is not the day, but that you do!
 - But instead of deploring or ignoring or exploring or adoring it – we should restore it
 - We should take one day in seven, and don't have legalistic, some time in your week to rest, to pour into your family spiritually, to grow in the Lord

The 10 Commandments

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#2 – Don't make any idol

#3 – Don't take the name of the Lord in vain

#4 – Keep the Sabbath

#5 – Honor your Father and Mother

- the word honor – means to give weight – we are to give weight to the position of our Mom and Dad and watch the way we talk about them and to them
 - to watch our hearts toward them
 - and we need to realize that this commandment doesn't just apply to our literal parents
- David, when he cut Saul's robe, he cried out in repentance 'oh my father'
 - Now Saul wasn't David's father, he was actually David's father in law
 - Now you are getting mettlesome pastor Jason – we need to honor our in-laws
- In fact I really believe we can apply this commandment to anyone God puts us under – our boss, our pastor
 - It doesn't mean those people rule over me, but it means I need to respect the position and watch my mouth and my heart toward them

The 10 Commandments

#1 – No other gods before me

#2 – Don't make any idol

#3 – Don't take the name of the Lord in vain

#4 – Keep the Sabbath

#5 – Honor your Father and Mother

#6 – Do not Murder

- this is the one commandment most of us feel pretty good about – alright one out of ten, two out of ten, honey, two out of ten

But most of us murder has not been an issue in our lives

- but I think number one this applies to human life at any age and any stage and so that make the guilty net a little bigger
 - but also Jesus commented on this commandment and said it also applies to when I hate someone in my heart
 - I have committed mental murder and once Jesus said that all of us have to admit – guilty
 - That same it most likely true with the seventh commandment

The 10 Commandments

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#2 – Don't make any idol

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#4 – Keep the Sabbath

#5 – Honor your Father and Mother

#6 – Do not Murder

#7 – Do not commit Adultery

- now I applaud you and me for being able to say, I have not done this one either
 - and I know that to your spouse there is a difference, neither is good, but there is a difference between a lustful thought and an adulterous act – a difference for sure
- but not enough of a difference for us to pride fully say well I have this commandment down
 - because again Jesus takes it further, that when we lust in our hearts, we are guilty of violating this commandment
- The term adultery means, "Unlawful sex" – so does not just apply to two married people being naughty, it applies to anything under that heading – sex outside of what God has ordained

The 10 Commandments

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#6 – Do not Murder

#7 – Do not commit Adultery

#8 – Do not steal

- Now again most of us would say, I have never put on a ski mask and robbed a bank – so I'm good

But grand larceny is not the only way to violate this commandment

- Most of us have jobs, where they pay us to work certain hours and to work hard during those hours – and most of us a time or two have been guilty of stealing time from our employer
 - We can steal from our employers
 - We can steal from the government in the form of taxes
 - We can steal from the Lord in the form on not giving to Him what is His

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#7 – Do not commit Adultery

#8 – Do not steal

#9 – Don't bear false witness

- the ninth commandment is to not bear false witness which we can simplify by saying – don't not lie – and we are all guilty here – but it goes deeper than that

The only example of someone "bearing false witness" in the Bible is at the trial of Jesus when they Jewish leaders brought men in Mark 14 – they said, Jesus said destroy this temple and in three day I will raise it up again"

- Now here is the deal Jesus did say that
 - Of course the context was He was talking about His body, He was going to raise from the dead in three days, but they were saying He was saying He was going to destroy the temple in Jerusalem
 - So it was the right information they were being tricky with the truth – and that is something we all need to guard against.
- Because our deceitful hearts will say, oh it wasn't really a lie, its was mostly true what I said about him about her

The 10 Commandments

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#7 – Do not commit Adultery

#8 – Do not steal

#9 – Don't bear false witness

#10 – Do not covet

- coveting is wanting more of what you already have enough of
 - and this commandment I think is one of the most significant
- We are not satisfied – we want more stuff, we want more from a relationship or more relationship, we want more from this life

And yet as we go through the scriptures what we find in all we need for life and godliness is found in Him, in Jesus

- That in His presence is fullness of joy, that at His right hand are pleasures forever more
 - The enemy knows that, but if he can keep you always looking other places that the one place you will be truly satisfied, well then he has won

Such wisdom in the law of God - We think this law, these 10 commandments as restrictive

- But think about it like if you were living in the Amazon – and so you put up the fence to protect your kids from going where they shouldn't and it keeps the predators out
 - This law is to free us up to enjoy all the life was meant to be without the pitfalls and the predators
 - God says I have taken you out of Egypt, now here is how you can be truly free
 - This is the love of God – Keep my commandments
- Not to save you, but so you will experience all that life is meant to be

It is sad day in our country today when we won't even display the 10 commandments in a public place

- we are so smart in our county, we don't want these rules
 - and generations of kids are going crazy
 - people take life for a pair of shoes
 - marriages are falling apart – sexually transmitted diseases are rampant
 - you can't leave your ipad out on a table for a minute or it will be gone
 - and personal and national debt is soaring out of control

Yeah God is so archaic, He doesn't know what He is talking about

- maybe it is us that has a problem
 - and so what do we do about it

Well most of us really can't change the nation, we have one vote and you should use it

- but the real question is friends, do you understand how blessed we are to have God's commandments
 - do you understand what a privilege
 - and are you willing to say – our country is going to hell in a hand basket, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord

It was so amazing last night, I got to sit down with my family and explain to them, why we do certain that we do as a family

- and I got to explain to them – I want you to know why, not just “these are my rules so obey”
 - but here is why – blessing follows this
 - this is for our good
- so when they think these things through for themselves they know my heart as a Father that loves them

Moses reminds them of how blessed they are that they have the law of God, the law from a Father that loves them

- and then chapter 6-10, we begin to see what their response should be to being so blessed

Remember your God – Deuteronomy 5-11

What He did – Deuteronomy 5

What you should do – Deuteronomy 6-10

- Love Him, Trust Him, Obey Him

- It is all the Lord, it is because He loves you, but there is a response – Love Him, Trust Him, Obey Him – we see that in chapters 6-10, let's look at portions of this text

Our Response

Chapter 6 - Love Him – read chapter 6:1-11

- The first response to all the Lord has done for us is to love Him
 - we see this hear in the great Hebrew Shema in verse 4

Every Jewish child was made to memorize Deuteronomy 6:4-5, and repeat it morning and night

- It was called Shema because of the first Hebrew word in verse 4 which is Hear, Shema means to Hear
 - Hear oh Israel, the Lord your God is One and you are to love Him with all your heart and soul and mind

This was such an important truth to the Jewish people that will you remember in the New Testament when Jesus is asked what is the most important commandment, He quoted this passage in the book of Deuteronomy

- you shall love the Lord your God

It is interesting to me that Jesus did not see the great Hebrew Shema as an affront to His deity

- you would think He would because it clearly says, the Lord our God is one
 - but in the Hebrew text hidden the Trinity
 - what do I mean

The Word used here for God is the Hebrew Word, “Elohim” – It is the same Word used for God in the first verse of the Bible – In the Beginning God created....

- and why this is important is “Elohim” is a plural Word

El – singular for God

Elohim is plural

That is also true of the word chosen for “one” in this Hebrew text

- the word for “one” – the Lord our God is “one”
 - is the Hebrew “Achad” – compound unity
- there were other words Moses could of used that meant one as in singular, but he choose to use Achad, a compound unity
 - so Jesus didn't see any problem with claiming to be God the son and quoting the great Hebrew Shema because in this verse – God is seen to be clearly one – but there is more to that oneness than meets the eye

The Lord our God is one (compound unity) – and your response to who He is, is you are to love Him with all your mind, soul and strength

- this type of love speak of all we are
 - you know some of us love God intellectually, we love to learn about Him that is why we are here on a Wednesday Night, but some that engage so much of their mind, their emotions are lacking
 - they are called the frozen chosen – you can't see me getting excited about God, but I am (no smile)
- and those of you that are passionate people, you in your heart right now are saying, yeah, get them pastor Jason, they need to dance for the Lord
 - but so often the problem with your type of personality, is yes your are passionate in worship, but I better be engaging and funny or you stop paying attention 30 second into the message

Some are intellectual in their love of God, some are emotional, some are both intellectual and they worship, but their life, which is the idea of the word heart and strength, it is the way I live my life

We can love God intellectually and emotionally, but for some it doesn't translate to how we live 10 minutes after church is over

- God is saying – I have done so much for you
 - So love me! – Love me with your intellect, love me with your emotions and love me with the way you live your life

And I think God is showing us in the rest of chapter 6 what that looks like practically

- if I am going to love Him with the way I live my life, then I am going to pass this love onto my children
 - I am going to talk about God to my kids

You guys know that kids are naturally full of questions and I know to some that can be annoying

- why, why, why???
- But I encourage you parents, grandparents, see that as an opportunity to turn the conversation to the things of the Lord

Love the Lord with the way you live your life by Teaching you kids – by secondly filling your homes with the Word, Moses says

- you tell what inspires people by what is on the walls of their homes
 - sports stars, recreation, beautiful art, family
 - nothing wrong with those things
- but the Jews would have the word on the door posts of their homes
 - and I credit my wife, there are verses everywhere in our home, greeting you at the door, all over the walls, in the bathroom

my step dad came over and says, I can't even go potty without reading the Bible hear, the whole book of Philippians is in front of you while you take care of business

- and I love that about her and our home – God says – do it, practically love me and... chapter 7 and 8...

Our Response

Chapter 6 - Love Him

Chapters 7 & 8 – Trust Him – read 7:1-11

- our first response is to love Him, with all that we are
 - our second response is to trust Him

It really comes down to faith

- do I believe that the Lord really loves me and knows what is best for my life and my families life
 - do I really believe He knows what to avoid and what to run to in this life
 - do I really believe that and trust Him
 - because I must

God tells the children of Israel once again to drive out the people who live in the land of Canaan, to not intermarry with them, to not worship their gods in a cross cultural, coexist sort of way

- No – He says drive them out
 - And I'm sure there were those in that time, like there are in our time that say – that's not fair, that doesn't seem like God to just obliterate a people

In fact you will hear people say, well what is wrong with radical Islam, who cuts off people heads because they won't convert

- isn't that exactly what your God did?
 - Be ready for that question

The answer – not in any way

- First of all God gave them over 600 years to repent
 - From the time of Abraham, when God said I am giving this land to your descendants, but not yet, because the iniquity of the Amorites, one people group among many in Cannon, one group, their sin hasn't cross the line yet

- And God waits 600 years to where we are in the text tonight

Beyond that as we talked about in the book of Numbers, the Canaanite people as religious practices would do horrible things to their own children

- things beyond killing them, harming them in horrific ways as worship to their gods
 - now the children of Israel didn't know that, you may not have known that

But God says, they need to go, the little ones would have been short-circuited into heaven, missing a life of abusive and torture, rather being in heaven with God and all of this after 600 years of them waiting to get it right

- The comparison between that, and a part of a religion that will cut off your head if you don't convert is frankly offensive to me
 - God says – I know what I am doing – I know why I am doing it
 - Your job isn't to figure it all about – your job is to trust me, trust my character, trust that I am been around the block a few times, this is not my first rodeo and let me work

God says trust me with this conquest, and I love it, I don't know if you noticed it in verses 1-2, but how God was going to do this is so insightful to me

- God says in verse 1 – “I will deliver them, you destroy them”
 - I will do my part and then you need to do yours
 - Why do I find that so important?
 - Because it is the same way God still works in our lives when He desires to ride us out of something, to set us free from something
- I will deliver you, and you need to destroy it

We can pray – God give me freedom from drugs or whatever you are in bondage to, and I believe He will deliver you

- we would love as church to lay hands on you, to anoint you with oil, to pray that God would set you free from bondage to drugs, alcohol, food, pornography, whatever
 - and I believe the Lord not only can, I believe He will
 - well then why am I not free
- because so often, we want to be delivered by the Lord, but we are not willing to destroy the thing in our part
 - we leave a stash somewhere
 - We leave our computers unguarded
 - The relationship, unsevered
- And God truly does deliver us, but because we leave a way to go back – eventually a day later, a month later, a year later, we find ourselves in bondage again

I don't know if that will work – the Lord would say, are you kidding, all I have done for you – you need to love me, make me your passion and you need to trust me, that I know what I am talking about when it comes to the danger of that sin and I know to set you free

- I will deliver you, but you must destroy that idol in your life
 - Our response to love him, to trust him and chapters 9 and 10...

Our Response

Chapter 6 - Love Him

Chapters 7 & 8 – Trust Him

Chapters 9 & 10 – Obey Him

- Read 9:1-6

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God says it is time for you to go in

- the Lord is upfront with them - there are going to be tough people you are up against
 - there are going to be difficult cities to conquer
 - but I am going to be with you, so enter, conquer and remember...

I am not bringing you in because you are righteous people

- and Moses goes through much of chapter 9 and 10 and just rehashes every rotten thing they had done to the Lord in the last 40 years
 - I am not bringing you into this land because you are a super righteous people
 - I am doing it, verse 5, because they are wicked, they are worse

You see remember, keep in mind where the nation of Israel sits, it is at a connecting point for three continents

- they all had to pass through ancient Israel
 - the Jews will say, God never gave us great commission – He didn't have to, He didn't have to send you out, everybody came to you
- And God figured out long before we did, that culture spreads
 - And God rather than having this child abusing, idol worshipping culture spread through the world, He wanted a people that were called by His name and had His laws spreading culture

It is not because of who you are, but because of who I am. It is not because you are righteous, but because they are so wicked

- but don't misunderstand what the point of this is
 - the point is not then therefore it doesn't matter how you live Israel, that is the mistake we make with grace today

The Lord loves and saves me because of who He is and what He has done, not because of what I have done

- true, true, true!!!
 - So therefore God doesn't care, it doesn't how I live
 - Wrong application of grace - It does matter!!!
- Not to save you, not to earn His love, but for your blessing and if you are going to be one that spreads the culture of the kingdom of God in your world

You see don't misunderstand what God is saying to them here in chapters 9 and 10

- it is not that God is saying, I am not bringing you in because you are holy, so therefore, it doesn't matter that you live holy
 - no, the lesson is, I am driving these other nations out, I am refusing that they will be the spreading of culture representatives in this land because they are so wicked
 - and if you become like them, don't think your fate will be any different
 - that is the lesson

And it's the same lesson of grace

- I am saved because God loves me, I am saved by His work on the cross and not mine
 - But if that sin will not have the same effects in my life, with my wife, with my kids as it does in the world, I am kidding my self and being deceived by Hell

Obedience pays friends - As God told Israel first King Saul, "Behold to obey is better than sacrifice and to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry." – I Samuel 15:22-23

- to obey the Lord, better than sacrifice or offering

Who is better for? – For you

- we need to remember this
 - God has given us His law – so love Him and obey Him – and don't think you will be any different than the world if you break that law

He summarize this thought in 10:12-22 of chapter 10, He has taught them a lot, time to land this plane...

- Our God is like no other God
 - He has been so good to us
 - So love Him, trust Him, obey Him
 - and if you do... chapter 11

Remember your God – Deuteronomy 5-11

What He did – Deuteronomy 5

What you should do – Deuteronomy 6-10

- Love Him, Trust Him, Obey Him

What He will do in return – Deuteronomy 11

- lets look at these one at a time

What He will do in return

#1 - You love Him – and He will bring you into a good land – Deuteronomy 11:1-11

- God wants to bring you into a land following with Milk and honey – a idiom that means it has everything you need – watered by nature, not by your efforts, and my eye will always be on it
 - what are you looking for in this life church – it will not come about by your striving or sin
 - you love Him, you cling to Him – He will bring you into a good land

What He will do in return

#1 - You love Him – and He will bring you into a good land – Deuteronomy 11:1-12

#2 – You trust Him – and He will take care of you – Deuteronomy 11:13-21

The Lord will pour out His blessing on those who are committed to trusting Him

- the Lord can you blessing as reward just as easily we think of Him withhold it for correction
 - He can withhold the rain in a land
 - We need to be careful when we ascribe weather events to the Lord, I feel like God gets the blame for major storms when really the way the world is, is because of our sin – kind of hypercritical to blame God for the effects of what He did not want us to do
 - So we need to be careful with that
- But we see in our bibles, sometimes God does and will withhold the rain, withhold physical blessing for correction
 - But the opposite – He can open up the windows of heaven – trust Him

What He will do in return

#1 - You love Him – and He will bring you into a good land – Deuteronomy 11:1-12

#2 – You trust Him – and He will take care of you – Deuteronomy 11:13-21

#3 – You obey Him – and He will expand your borders – Deuteronomy 11:22-32

- The Lord was going to make them undefeatable as a nation, their borders God was willing to give them was from the Mediterranean sea, to the Euphrates river – no think that through for a minute
 - How different would our world be, if the Jews had simply obey
 - How much different would your life be?

Hey there is a Chinese have a proverb that says the best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago, the second best time is right now – now is the time to realize how good and how right He is, and love Him, trust Him and obey Him with your live!