

The Book of Deuteronomy

Lessons from the Second Address of Moses Part II

Text: Deuteronomy 7 – 11

- I. 7:1-5; 9:1-8 – Judgment upon the Nations of Canaan
 - A. God promised to deliver the nations in the land of Canaan to the Israelites.
 - B. They were not to make any covenants or marriages with them.
 - C. Instead, they were to destroy them completely – including anything that had to do with their idolatry.
 - D. This is explained in more detail in chapter 9.
 - 1. The people of Canaan were mightier than Israel in every way.
 - 2. But, God would defeat these nations on behalf of His people.
 - 3. However, He warned Israel not to think that it was because of their own righteousness.
 - 4. Instead, it was because of the wickedness of the idolatrous nations.
 - 5. God would use the judgment of these peoples to fulfill His promise to Abraham.
 - 6. Furthermore, He reminded Israel that they had been stubborn and rebellious instead of righteous.
 - E. This is another illustration of the love and mercy of God – even toward a rebellious and sinful people.

- II. 7:6-11 – The Choosing of Israel
 - A. As another token of His love, God reminded the Israelites that He had chosen them.
 - B. He did not choose them because they deserved it, but because He loved them and desired to keep His promise of mercy. (Cf. Rom. 5:6-10; Titus 3:3-7; 1 John 4:9-10, 19)
 - C. In return, they were to love and obey God – and He would keep His covenant with them.
 - D. If they hated Him, by disobeying His commandments, they would face the wrath of God (which was still His love).

- III. 7:12 – The Conditional Covenant
 - A. Thus, the conditional nature of God’s covenant with Israel is manifest.
 - B. If they obeyed God, He would keep His covenant by blessing them in the land.
 - C. If they disobeyed God, they would forfeit their right to God’s blessings and the land.

- IV. 8:1-6 – The Command to Remember God’s Love
 - A. They were to keep in mind continually all the things God had done for them to bring them out of Egypt and to the land of Canaan.
 - B. He led them in the wilderness.
 - C. He tested them and sought to humble them – for their own good.
 - D. He allowed them to hunger but fed them with manna – so they would learn an important spiritual truth (cf. Matt. 4:4; Luke 4:4; 12:22-34; Heb. 13:5-6).
 - E. He provided for all of their needs.
 - F. He disciplined them so they would learn to reverence and obey Him.

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- V. 10:12-22 – The Love of God
- A. As they remembered God's love, they also were to keep a proper perspective on His nature and character.
 - B. This would help them to understand more fully the love of God.
 - C. Vs. 12-13 – The requirements of God's love:
 - 1. God is not a tyrant or a cruel taskmaster.
 - 2. His requirements were not burdensome, nor His commandments grievous (cf. 1 John 5:3; Matt. 11:28-30; Micah 6:8).
 - 3. God required reverence – respect for His name and authority.
 - 4. God required faithfulness.
 - 5. God required love.
 - 6. God required service.
 - 7. God required obedience.
 - 8. God required total commitment.
 - 9. Yet, all of these things were ultimately for their own good!
 - D. Vs. 14-16 – The magnitude of God's love:
 - 1. All that exists belongs to God; for, He created it.
 - 2. Yet, out of all the Creation, God chose them.
 - E. Vs. 17-19 – The compassion of God's love:
 - 1. God is unequalled in strength – great, mighty, and terrible.
 - 2. Yet, He does not respect persons and cannot be bribed.
 - 3. He shows mercy upon the needy – orphans, widows, and strangers.
 - 4. He expects His people to demonstrate the same compassion.
 - F. Vs. 20-22 – The confidence of God's love:
 - 1. Because of God's nature, they should fear and serve Him.
 - 2. Yet, also because of His nature, they could cleave to Him and take oaths in His name.
 - 3. "He is thy praise."
 - a. Emphatic emphasis upon the word "He"
 - b. He is the object of praise, worthy of worship.
 - c. It may also indicate that He is the reason for Israel's fame or renown.
 - 4. "He is thy God."
 - a. Emphatic emphasis upon the word "He"
 - b. He had proven it by all He had done for them.
 - c. They must accept it as absolute truth and live by its implications.
- VI. 11:10-15 – The Blessing of Canaan
- A. Vs. 10-12 – Difference between Egypt and Canaan
 - B. Vs. 13-15 – God promised to reward their faithfulness with blessing in the land.

