

3/22/24

Lesson 2

We thank you our Father that you have provided for us freedom in Christ so we have the desire and power to do your commandments. Open our understanding of your Word. Make us understanding that these words are given because of your love, and are for our protection and welfare. Increase our wisdom and knowledge of your word and equip us to be bold and faithful in our Christian walk, and that we will be able to give an answer for the faith that lies within us. In Jesus name.

Our text is Deuteronomy 1:5-18

Comments and questions welcome

Deuteronomy 1:5-18

2 Timothy 2:15 *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

We are commanded to study Deuteronomy as well as the other four books of Moses, or we will be embarrassed as we incorrectly divide the word of truth.

We will be and we will lead others astray without the instructions found here.

We will be victims of the lion who is prowling about seeking who me may devour.

By their fruit ye shall know them. Deuteronomy defines the good fruit whereby one's faith is proved.

Without the laws summarized in this book, we have NOTHING to instruct *those that oppose themselves*, and nothing for God to use to give the sinner repentance.

Herein is contained the truth sinners will acknowledge when God gives them repentance.

Here is found the definition of iniquity which man is to depart from and purge himself of.

Here, also, is found the definition of sin according to the apostle John (1 Jn. 3:4).

In other words, the laws contained here that Moses reviews is what Paul encouraged Timothy, and all godly leaders to study and teach to those under his care.

We must not slack in that responsibility to teach the law?

Vv. 5-18

Last time, we saw that the law of Moses is just as much for the "Israel of God" (Gal. 6:6) today as it was for the "Israel of God" here *on this side of Jordan, in the land of Moab* who heard Moses speak.

By the time of Christ, the law had been totally corrupted as the Judaizes took the law and stretched it beyond recognition with their traditions. It became a heavy yoke for the those who wanted to please God.

Christ gave the proper and intended understanding to the law, and freed the people from the heavy bondage the religious leaders had imposed. He restored the spirit to the law and took the power away from Jewish leaders of his day. Christ told them that the law was made for man, not man for the law.

2 Timothy 3:16 *All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.*

The Lord commands the new Israel of God, the Gospel Church, to hear, learn, teach and do Moses' instruction given here on the Moab side of the river.

Deuteronomy is the most influential book in history. It not only was it used by the prophets; it was used throughout the New Testament to establish the Gospel of Christ. Deuteronomy was used in the establishment of our nation, and is the basis of our legal system which is now being dismantled.

Common law meant Biblical law, because everyone knew biblical law so there was no excuse. It was common knowledge.

Not only in Deuteronomy, but throughout the law and the prophets we are told that **the law is tied to the land, or the land is tied to the law. Faithfulness to God is required if** a Christian nation will have dominion over the land for good prosperity, and if he will retain the land it has been given by God.

Everything is from the ground.

What does God say the land will to an apostate people as the land obeys the law of God?

Leviticus 18:24 *Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for in all these the nations are defiled which I cast out before you: 25 And the land is defiled: therefore I do visit the iniquity thereof upon it, and the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants. 26 Ye shall therefore keep my statutes and my judgments, and shall not commit [any] of these abominations; [neither] any of your own nation, nor any stranger that sojourneth among you: 27 (For all these abominations have the men of the land done, which [were] before you, and the land is defiled;) 28 That the land spue not you out also, when ye defile it, as it spued out the nations that [were] before you.*

War against God is to war against the land, and the results cannot be avoided.

In the life of ancient Israel, we see how faithfulness to the law is tied to the land. Apostasy resulted in the loss of the productivity of the land, and the loss of the land. Since Christ, we have seen the same thing. Throughout the history of Christianity, Christian nations have been exalted and put down according to their faithfulness to the law. The British Empire is a good example, as well as our nation today.

1:6-8. After Israel received the law of God and the promise of victory at Mount Horeb, the Lord tells the people to go put the word in action, and by faith take possession of the land that their fathers had been promised.

Vv. 9-18

We will follow the context here and deal with the rebellion when we get to verse 19.

Q. What did Moses tell the people in vv. 10, 11?

Moses tells them that **through natural means**, God miraculously multiplied their numbers as he fulfilled his promise to Abraham.

What is a passage that applies here?

Psalms 127:3 *Lo, children [are] an heritage of the LORD: [and] the fruit of the womb [is his] reward. 4 As arrows [are] in the hand of a mighty man; so [are] children of the youth. 5 Happy [is] the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.*

Are children a reward for God or are they God's reward to his faithful people? Those with large families are confident that children are blessings from God.

There was a practically unknown young man in Indiana who decided to run for State Representative. I had a print shop at the time, and I did his printing for him. He was from a very large family that had been in that county for many years, and was well known as a godly family man. He got a suppressing number of votes. Though he did not get the office, he later ran for county council, and got that position of authority.

Proverbs 14:2 *Where no oxen [are], the crib [is] clean: but much increase [is] by the strength of the ox.*

What does the Lord tell us in v. 2?

The multitude of children is a blessing from God. Godly Children show the strength of a Christian family and of a church.

I have noticed there seems to be more children in historically Orthodox churches as homeschool families seem to gravitate to them because of their sound doctrine.

Being very unstable on my feet, I am learning not to try to get a snack or coffee in the Church-Sunday School break because of the children. They are excited and will run into people who might be in their way.

I came across this quote from Joseph Hall (1574-1656)

Commenting on v. 5, he said

I remember a great man coming into my house, at Waltham, and seeing all my children standing in the order of their age and stature, said, "These are they that make rich men poor." But he straight received this answer, "Nay, my lord, these are they that make a poor man rich; for there is not one of these whom we would part with for all your wealth."

We have many truly rich men in our church.

There was a “poor man” in the church in Louisiana. He had 5 or 6 children at the time, children who were given by God on a regular basis. That was in the 1970s. I wonder how many children they have had since, and what they are doing now.

Sadly, it seems that even Christians today hate children, and see them as a hindrance to perusing the “good life.”

How many Christian parents teach their sons the importance of marriage and raising a godly family? How many pastors teach their people on the importance of marriage and raising a godly family. My dad who was a lay pastor never mentioned anything to my brother nor me. Nor did I mention it when I was pastoring. It was only when I came into contact with the homeschool movement and saw the joy of children there that the Lord opened my eyes.

At Bettie’s 50th college reunion we met a couple our age who were proud that they had no children.

When I did an article on abortion, I found that it is the professed Christians who are keeping the abortion business going.

The once Christian West is breeding itself out of existence.

In the upcoming Examiner, I have a book review in the March World magazine, Plea to American Hearts. The author urges the young to get (and stay) married.