

DEUTERONOMY 4 vs 1

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Notice: these several chapters 4 - 11 speak about the Covenant God has with His people. There are NO bloody sacrificial or ceremonial laws involved with this Covenant. Faithful men and women in all ages carefully **keep** and **do** these 10 commands... which express the Covenant of God with His people. **God saved His people from Egypt**

The Lord was not lawless. He said, do not think I came to destroy the law or the prophets; whoever relaxes one of the least of the commands and teaches others to do so, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. And on the first day of the Resurrection, the good news of Messiah did not change: beginning with Moses and the prophets He explained to them things concerning Himself. According to Jesus... loving our Father in heaven with all our heart, soul, mind and strength... is not a bad thing to do; rather, it's a perfect, good thing to do **even if it is done imperfectly; because we will always need His help.**

¹**Now listen, O Israel** / not merely the direct progeny of father Israel who God has not cast away – **Romans 11**, whose name means **governed by God**; but this name, which is not exclusively a Jewish name, though it is a Hebrew name kept by the Jewish people, too... but it belongs to those in every nation who have heard the good news... also **governed by God**; according to Paul, they too are now: **the Israel of God**, here on earth, so it does us all well to pay attention, to listen and hide these words in our heart,

to the statutes and judgments, which I teach you to do, that you may live, and enter and possess the land here on earth which the LORD God of your forefathers gives you.

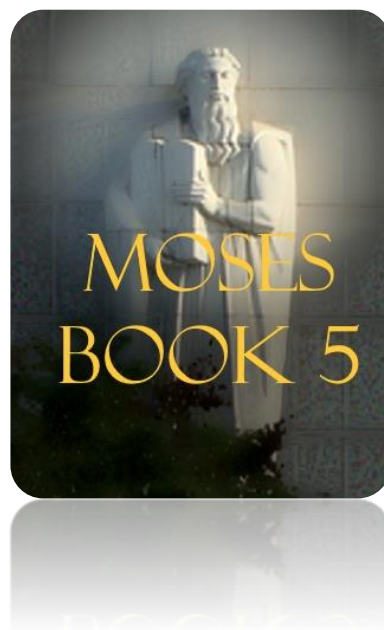
²**Do not** add to the word which I command you, **nor** take away from it, that you **keep**... the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you, that you **keep** / in Hebrew, **shamar**; means: **guard to protect**; mentioned 58 times in this book; it was the first assignment God gave in the Garden to Adam to do... which he did not do; and it's the same word John tells us Jesus told them 12 times the night He was betrayed, but were His disciples listening?

³**You saw with your own eyes what the LORD did in the case of Baalpeor: for all the people who followed Baalpeor, the LORD your God destroyed them from among you** / 24,000 died in a plague; demon inspired Baal worship is practiced even in the west now days.

⁴**But you who held to the LORD your God are alive every one of you this day.**

⁵**Behold, I taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should do in the land where you go to possess** / mentioned 42 times in this book that the people of God might prosper and live long on the earth... they are not eternal promises.

⁶**So, keep and do; for this is wisdom and understanding in the eyes of the nations, who will hear all these statutes and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people /**



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by the way, the vast majority who claim to be the people of God living now days still do not do what the Lord God asked of them.

7 For what great nation is there who has God so near them, as the LORD our God is in all we call upon Him for? / had His people listened, the world would have sat up and taken note. The God who speaks is different than the ecumenical god of deists and agnostics, pantheists and humanists – who want to do their own thing anyways.

8 And what great nation has right statutes and judgments as all this law, which I set before you this day? / God knows all the legislatures of the nations are overpopulated with thieves and robbers.

9 Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep your soul, lest you forget what your eyes saw, and it departs from your heart all the days of your life: but teach your children, and your children's children / because if you don't teach them, someone else will;

10 Remember the day you stood before the LORD your God in Horeb, when the LORD said, Gather the people to Me, and I caused them to hear My words, that they learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and they teach their children.

11 And you came near and stood at the mountain; and the mountain burned with fire to the heart of heaven: darkness, clouds, and thick darkness.

12 Then the LORD spoke to you from the fire: you heard the voice of the words, but saw no form; only a voice / from the beginning, at Mount Sinai in Arabia, God wanted His words ringing in our ears, written on our minds.

13 And He declared to you His covenant, which He commanded you to do, ten commandments / 10 perfectly good articles of faithfulness written by God for our benefit; 10 great words which have not gone away, and will never go away... which He expects His people in every generation to keep and do; and teach them and live... and prosper **here on earth;**

He wrote them on two tablets of stone.

14 And the LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that you do them in the land where you are going to possess.

15 So, take good heed for you saw no likeness the day the LORD spoke to you in Horeb from the fire / carefully guard yourself lest you substitute the powerful word of God with the work of your hands;



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¹⁶lest you corrupt, and make a graven image, the likeness of any figure, the likeness of any male or female / Baal worship, sexualizing the population, bowing down to adore the work of our hands,

¹⁷the likeness of any animal on earth, the likeness of any bird that flies in the air,

¹⁸the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground, the likeness of any fish that is in the waters beneath the earth / all Baal worship; all manmade distractions instead of doing what God said:

¹⁹And lest you lift up your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun, or the moon, and the stars -- all the host of heaven – what the LORD your God prearranged for all nations under the whole heaven, / incredibly beautiful things made by the Creator himself, to give light by day and night; given to mark the seasons; given as signs to enlighten the world; but **not** given to be worshiped,

lest you... be drawn away and worship or serve them / doing that stuff is Baal worship.

²⁰Remember, the LORD took you and brought you from the iron furnace, from Egypt; people for His own possession, as you are this day.

²¹Now, the LORD was angry with me because of you, and pledged I would **not** go over Jordan, I would **not** enter the good land that the LORD your God gives you for a possession / yet all his days, instead of moping, Moses faithfully led them onward, as close as he could to the promise land:

²²I must die in this land, I must **not** go over the Jordan: but you will go over, and possess that good land / and don't be in a hurry to read past this verse; read it again and ponder it.

²³So, take good heed lest you forget the covenant of the LORD your God which He made with you / don't you want to thank Moses for helping us remember these instructions God gave to His people? Someday we will meet those who stood on the edge of the land that everyone dreamed about, promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; flowing with milk and honey; yet they like us disappointed the Lord,

lest you forget... and foolishly make for yourself a graven image / man's boogers on God's creation, or any likeness which the LORD your God has forbidden you.

²⁴For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God / Dr. Dallas Willard said, we know God is powerful, and if His power is anything like electricity, then He is dangerous; and we better learn how to approach Him correctly.

²⁵When you beget children, and children's children, and you have been long in the land, and you corrupt, and make a graven image, or any likeness, and do wrong in the sight of the LORD your God, to provoke His anger / Moses says, should you turn and dabble in Baal worship then be warned:

²⁶I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day: you will quickly perish from the land where you go over the Jordan to possess; you will **not** prolong your days in it, but will be utterly destroyed / if necessary, all creation will witness against you and me.



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²⁷ And the LORD will scatter you among the nations, and you will be left a remnant among the nations, where the LORD leads you / which we know history tells us happened.

²⁸ And there you will serve gods, the work of men's hands, of wood and stone which do not see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell / there they will be slaves to what is nothing but, artificial creations.

²⁹ But **if** from there you seek the LORD your God you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul / it's a big IF, if you are not yawning half-heartedly.

³⁰ When you are in tribulation, and all these things come on you, **even in the latter days if** you turn to the LORD your God and are obedient to His voice / even in the last days, so these words are for our generation, too; **if** you have a METANOIA moment, if you reconsider to do His commands which He wrote in stone; remember what He said to keep and do; whether we keep and do them perfectly;

³¹ (For the LORD your God is a merciful God;) He will **not** forsake you, **nor** destroy you, **nor** forget the covenant of your forefathers which He pledged to them.

³² Indeed, ask the days of old, even before you were born: since the day God created Adam on the earth, ask from one side to the other of heaven, has anything so great as this been seen or heard?

³³ Did any nation hear the voice of God speak from the fire, as you heard, and survive? / it is true: NO other nation in history claims to have a God like ours who speaks directly to the people.

³⁴ Or that God ventured to go and take for Himself a nation from among the nations, by trials, by signs and wonders; by war, and by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm, and by great terrors, as the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes? Which other nation and people have made this claim?

³⁵ You were shown these things that you would know: **the LORD He is God**; there is none beside Him.

³⁶ From heaven He let you hear His voice, and He instructed you: and on **earth** He showed you His great fire; you heard His words from the fire.

³⁷ And because **He loved your forefathers**, He chose their descendants after them, and in His sight brought you from Egypt with His mighty power It is interesting to read the Bible and find out what God said. Abraham's descendants include 7 sons of Keturah; his grandson Jacob had 12 sons, yet blessed Joseph's 2 sons Ephraim and Manasseh who were ½ Egyptian, given those promises; Moses is not talking about 1 great-grandson of Abraham who was Jewish,

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³⁸ to drive out from before you, nations greater and mightier than you, to bring you and give you the land for an inheritance, as it is this day.

³⁹ Therefore, know today and consider in your heart: the LORD, He is God in heaven above, and on the earth below: there is no other.

⁴⁰ So **keep** His statutes and His commandments, which I give you this day, that it goes well with you, and with your children after you, and that you prolong your days on **earth**, which the LORD your God gives you, forever.

⁴¹ Then Moses set apart three cities across the Jordan toward the sun-rising / the east;

⁴² that a manslayer flees there... who did **not** intentionally kill his neighbor, who did **not** hate him previously; and by fleeing to one of these cities he might live:

⁴³ Bezer in the wilderness, on the plateau of the Reubenites; and Ramoth in Gilead for the Gadites; and Golan in Bashan for the Manassites / among the cities given the Levites: 6 were cities of refuge, designated for a manslayer to run to for safety, if he did not intend to kill someone; a known murderer could not claim protection at one of these cities.

⁴⁴ This is the law which Moses set before the children of Israel:

⁴⁵ these are the testimonies, statutes and judgments, which Moses spoke to the children of Israel, after they exited Egypt,

⁴⁶ across the Jordan, in the valley over opposite Bethpeor, in the land of Sihon king of the Amorites, who lived at Heshbon, whom Moses and the children of Israel defeated, **after they exited Egypt**:

⁴⁷ they possessed the land, and the land of Og king of Bashan, two kings of the Amorites, who were across the Jordan toward the sun-rising;

⁴⁸ from Aroer which is on the edge of the valley Arnon, even as far as Mount Sirion (which is Hermon),

⁴⁹ with all the Arabah across the Jordan eastward, even to the sea of the Arabah, at the foot of the slopes of Pisgah. / God is not lawlessness which leads to violence, He expects His people to **keep** and **do** 10 commands to live long and prosper in the land... and teach them to their children. None of the prophets: can be understood apart from knowing this covenant God made; that does not mention the word: **perfectly**; nor included one bloody sacrifice.

We are grateful to God that the Saudi govt has preserved the Mountain of Moses.