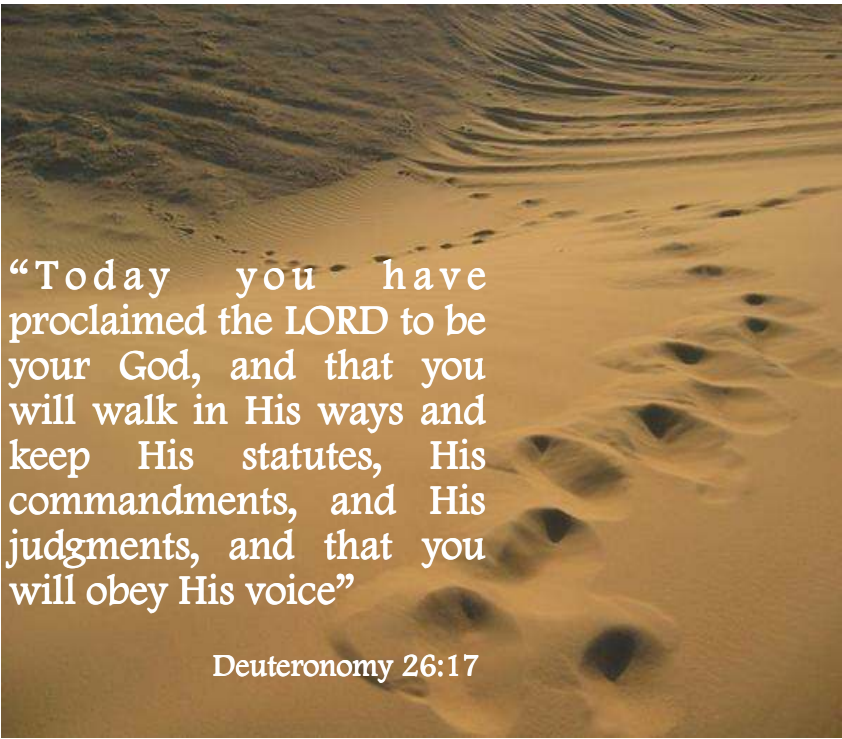




Sowing the Word



“Today you have proclaimed the LORD to be your God, and that you will walk in His ways and keep His statutes, His commandments, and His judgments, and that you will obey His voice”

Deuteronomy 26:17

Deuteronomy 26-27

August 26th-Septemner 1st, 2010

So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped *them* to understand the reading.

(Nehemiah 8:8)

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Helpful Study Resource:

Explore the Book by J. Sidlow Baxter

Online Help:

Deuteronomy: The Law that Delivers by Ray C. Stedman

<http://www.pbc.org/files/messages/2992/0205.html>

http://preceptaustin.org/deuteronomy_commentaries.htm

Commentary:

The commentary used with permission throughout
this booklet is:

With the Word Bible Commentary

by Warren W. Wiersbe.

ISBN 0-8407-9108-9

Outline

- I. First Sermon: Reviewing the Past (1–4)
 - A. The tragedy of unbelief (1)
 - B. Journeys and victories (2–3)
 - C. Closing appeal that they obey (4)

- II. Second Sermon: Obedience in the Present (5–26)
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 - 2. Beware of Pride (8-9)
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 - C. Applied “worshipfully” (12-16)
 - 1. One God, One Way, One Place (12-13)
 - 2. Loving God effects life practically (14–15)
 - 3. Consistent remembrance - feasts (16:1–17)
 - D. Applied Civilly – administering Justice (16:18–20)
 - 1. Appoint judges (16:18-22)
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 - E. Applied Socially (21-26)

- III. Third Sermon: Considering the Future (27–30)
 - A. Blessings and curses (27–28)
 - B. Repentance and return (29–30)

- IV. Personal Concerns: Moses’ End (31–34)
 - A. A new leader – Joshua (31)
 - B. A new song (32)
 - C. A new blessing – Final Blessings of Moses (33)
 - D. A new home – Death of Moses (34)

With the Word Bible Commentary

Deuteronomy 26

These two rituals were to be observed after the nation had entered Canaan and become an agricultural society. When they had reaped their first harvest, the people were to give the firstfruits to God to acknowledge Him as the Redeemer of the nation. God still wants us to put Him first and give Him glory for the blessings He freely bestows on us (Prov. 3:5–10).

They were also to present the “third-year tithe” to help support the Levites and the poor in the land. As with the ceremony of firstfruits, the people were to confess the Lord’s goodness in blessing the land and giving the harvest.

There is nothing wrong with special times of ceremony and celebration, especially when we make new beginnings. However, we must focus on worshipping God and not just observing a ceremony.

These two events remind us of the two great commandments, to love God first and then to love our neighbor. Grateful obedience is a hallmark of God’s special people (vv. 16–19).

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Deut 26:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

With the Word Bible Commentary

Deuteronomy 27

This ceremony was observed only once, after Israel entered the land and began to conquer it (Josh. 8:30–35). It was a solemn reminder to them that obedience to God was the secret of success (Josh. 1:8).

The Law was written on large stones so that everyone could read it. Today, as we read and meditate on God's Word, the Spirit writes it on our hearts and transforms us from within (2 Cor. 3:1–3, 18).

The ceremony was a renewal of the nation's covenant with God, for new beginnings deserve new acts of dedication. The burnt offering spoke of total dedication to God. The peace offerings, and the meal that followed, spoke of joyful fellowship with God.

The curses are related to the Law already given in the Ten Commandments and cover many aspects of personal life. Israel's obeying the Law did not deliver them from Egypt or take them into Canaan, but it did enable them to live together and enjoy the blessings of God.

None of us can wholly keep God's law or fully meet all His righteous demands. We give thanks for what Christ has done for us on the cross (Gal. 3:10–14) and what the Spirit does in our lives (Rom. 8:1–4).

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Deut 27:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

***“You shall build with whole stones the altar
of the LORD your God, and offer burnt
offerings on it to the LORD your God.”***

Deuteronomy 27:6

Written by: *F. B. Meyer*

Taken From: *Our Daily Homily*

The obvious intention of this precept was to prevent idolatry, lest the people should think more of the altar than of Jehovah who was worshipped there. Beware of anything that would divert men's thoughts from God.

Build your Addresses of unhewn stones.--When speaking to men, Paul determined to erect structures of unhewn stones, eschewing worldly wisdom, that the power of God might burn more conspicuously on the altar of his words. He knew that his speech and his preaching could never be in persuasive words of human wisdom, and it was his fixed determination to know nothing among men but Jesus Christ and Him crucified. If you spend too much time in cutting the stones of your address, your hearers will probably be more occupied with their artistic grace than with the Divine fire that should burn upon them.

Build your Prayers of unhewn stones.--The expressions of some men in prayer are so exquisitely chiselled that you keep wondering what they will say next, and how. Their prayers stand as beautiful altars on which there is no fire. Oh for the strong cryings and tears of a Spirit-taught man, expressing the real need of his nature, rather than the exquisite beauty of an oration to God!

Build your Inner life of unhewn stones.--Do not keep looking to see how you are performing the acts of consecration, confession, devotion. The least you think of these the better, that your entire thought may be concentrated on the great God and His Presence. There must be sincerity in our acts of consecration. One inch of rising flame is better than yards of chiselled stone!