

Studies in Deuteronomy

Topic: The Restating of the Ten Commandments

Scripture: Deuteronomy 5

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 5:11

LESSON 5

DEUTERONOMY 5

INTRODUCTION: The word "Deuteronomy" means "second law" or "the second giving of the law." In this chapter Moses is used of God to do exactly what the name of the book implies. The generation who had originally heard the Ten Commandments is now dead, and buried. The new generation now needs to have the law of God restated, and interpreted for them so that they might know what to do in order to please God. In this chapter we find **The Restating of the Ten Commandments.**

I THE RESTATING OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS BY MOSES v 1-21

- A. Moses reminds the new generation of Israel that it was God who originally gave to their fathers these Ten Commandments v 1-5
HOREB (v 2)-"dryness; desert" - The lower mountain peaks of Mt Sinai (Ex 3:1)
COVENANT (v 2) -"a formal agreement between two or more persons"
Moses reminds this new generation of Israel that the covenant that God made with their fathers was also a covenant made with them. Moses had gone alone to the top peak of Horeb called "Mount Sinai" and there God had given him these Ten Commandments to be observed by the nation of Israel. (Exodus 19:16-25)
- B. Moses restates the Ten Commandments to the new generation of Israel
v 6-21
The Ten Commandments were not given to man in order to save man, but instead were given to show man how far short he falls from God's perfect law. (Romans 3:23; Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 2:8-9) The law was like a mirror so man may see himself with all of his imperfections. It was a "schoolmaster" who taught man just how sinful he was, and then pointed him to Jesus for forgiveness of his sins. (I Timothy 1:8-10; I John 3:4; Galatians 3:23) The first four of the Ten Commandments have to do with "man's attitude towards God" while the last six deal with "man's attitude toward his fellow man."
NOTICE THE TEN COMMANDMENTS:
1) "thou shalt have none other gods before Me" (v 6-7)-God is to have first place in every man's life. Man is to worship only the one true and living God. (Exodus 20:3; Isaiah 42:8; 43:11; 44:6-8; Daniel 3:12)

- 2) "thou shalt not make thee any graven image" (v 8-10)-Man is forbidden by God to make any visible representation of God whether out of stone, metal, or anything else. God desires to be worshiped in "spirit and in truth." (Exodus 20:4-6; John 4:24; I John 5:21)
- 3) "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain" (v 11) - God requires that man not use His name in a contemptuous or irreverent manner. (Exodus 20:7; Matthew 6:9; Psalm 111:9; Philippians 2:9-11)
- 4) "keep the Sabbath Day to sanctify it" (v 12-15) - This is the only one of the Ten Commandments that the New Testament does not repeat as a command. The law of the Sabbath was not a moral law, but was a ceremonial law given ONLY to the nation of Israel to observe. (Exodus 31:17 - ". . . it is a sign between me and the children of Israel. . ." Under the old covenant Israel worshiped on the "Sabbath Day" (Saturday), however, under the new covenant the Christian worships on the "Lord's Day" (Sunday). The law of the Sabbath belonged to Israel NOT to New Testament churches. (Exodus 20:8-11; John 20:19; Acts 20:7; I Corinthians 16:1-2; John 9:16)
- 5) "honour thy father and thy mother" (v 16)-HONOUR-"to hold in high esteem; obey; reverence"-This is the first of the Ten Commandments that gives the promise of a blessing for its obedience. (Exodus 20:12; Ephesians 6:1-3; II Timothy 3:1-2)
- 6) "thou shalt not kill" (v 17)-Human life is sacred to God. The meaning of the word "kill" is in reference to "murder." (Exodus 20:13; Matthew 19:18)
- 7) "neither shalt thou commit adultery" (v 18)-This command was given to protect the marriage relationship which God Himself instituted in the Garden of Eden. (Exodus 20:14; Genesis 2:24; I Corinthians 7:2; I Thessalonians 4:3)
- 8) "neither shalt thou steal" (v 19)-This command required man to be honest in his dealings with his fellow man. (Exodus 20:15; II Corinthians 8:21)
- 9) "neither shalt thou bear false witness" (v 20)-this command required man to be truthful in his dealings with his fellow man. (Exodus 20:16; Proverbs 6:17; Psalm 120:2)
- 10) "neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife" (v 21)-DESIRE - "to covet; crave greedily" - This command is different from the other nine commandments for not only does it prohibit the action of taking that which belongs to your neighbor, but also it prohibits even the very thought, the desire, of taking that which belongs to the neighbor. (Exodus 20:17; Matthew 5:27-28; Luke 12:15; Romans 7:7)

II THE RECEPTION OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS BY THE PEOPLE v 22-33

- A. Moses retells how Israel agreed to obey God's commandments as Moses

had spoken unto them v 22-33

However, Israel was not able to keep God's law because of their sinful nature. Just as they were incapable of keeping God's law perfectly, even so every man is unable to keep it. The law of God is like a mirror. A mirror may show the dirt on a person's face, but it cannot wash the dirt off. The law can show man his sin, but it cannot wash that sin away. It takes the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ to cleanse man of his sin. (Galatians 2:16; Romans 3:28; Acts 13:39; James 2:10)

TEACHERS' TIP: God is glorified, not by our groanings but by our thanksgivings.

Next Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 6:5