
Life-shaping significance...

1. Exclusive devotion to the LORD is completely compromised by idolatry.
 - a. What idols are so appealing that tempt you to follow them?

 - b. How can you eliminate the threat they pose?

2. Despite enjoying a privileged status with the LORD God as His redeemed people, how is this put at risk, especially by an alliance with an unbeliever as a prospective marriage partner or in a business venture?

3. Those who belong to God are set apart for Him. How does your lifestyle reflect that you belong exclusively to the LORD God (1 Peter 1:14-16)?

4. The LORD God alone is God. How does He show His credentials as the truly supreme God and most worthy of your exclusive devotion?

5. While the LORD God will defeat all His enemies and grant victory to those who belong to Him, how can you show your trust in Him?

Prayer points...

6

Studies in Deuteronomy 1-11

Live life like this!

A distinctive devotion

Deuteronomy 7:1-26



The story so far...

Moses instructs the next generation by reminding them to fear/revere the LORD God so that they and successive generations will live in the land God promised their ancient ancestors. They are to love the LORD God wholeheartedly. They are to instruct their children to walk in God's ways so that they may enjoy His bountiful provision in the Promised Land. But they are warned not to forget the LORD their God once they enter and live in the land. They are also not to compromise their exclusive devotion to the LORD God by being unfaithful by following other gods. By telling successive generations what the LORD God has done for them in their recent history will instill a healthy fear of the LORD God that will result in obedience; and obeying God's word is seen by walking in God's ways.

God spoke these words...

Moses tells this next generation of Israelites that God will conquer all their enemies as they enter the land. They will face enemies bigger and stronger than them but God will defeat them (1-6).

1. Now assured by the LORD God of victory against their enemies, what are they commanded to do to these vanquished enemies (1-2a & 5)?

2. Why are these prohibitions issued (2b-4a)?

3. What will happen if these prohibitions are disregarded (4b)?
4. God sovereignly chose them to belong to Him as His treasured possession. How is this to be reflected in their lifestyle (6 [Exodus 19:4-6])?

God's redeemed people are to be distinctive in their lifestyle showing that they belong to Him; they are to be set apart exclusively for Him (7-11).

5. Why did God chose them to be His people (7-8)? What does this prevent?
6. What conclusion is reached about the identity of the LORD God (9-10)?
7. What sets the LORD God apart from every other god (10-11)?

The faithful, covenant-keeping LORD God loves those who love Him but those who hate Him will certainly face destruction (12-16).

8. So if these redeemed people who belong to the LORD God fulfil these conditions, what does God promise them (12-15 [Genesis 12:2-3])?
9. Why is it imperative to eliminate the people living in the land (16)?

The LORD God promised to deliver these imposing enemies into their hands so they must defeat them (17-24).

10. Why will a good memory assure them of victory (17-21)?
11. What will their conquest of the land achieve (22-24)?

The gods and idols of the people living in the land are detestable to the LORD God; they are an abhorrence to the LORD God (25-26).

12. The presence of these gods/idols is highlighted again. Why must they eliminate these idols and have no contact with them at all (25)?
13. What devastating consequence will defying this command result in (26)?

New Testament connections...

Read 1 Corinthians 10:14-22

1. What threat does idolatry pose to those who belong to God?

Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

2. What is to characterize those who belong to the Lord?