

Deuteronomy Chapter 6 Commentary

1 Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it:

Moses says to all Israel; I am repeating to you again, right now, before I die, all the commandments and wonders that God commanded me to teach you. This is an admonition to God's ministers today to preach and teach the whole bible, not just the parts that are sweet to hear. Preach and teach, the hard truths of the consequences of sin, and the judicial wrath of an Almighty God, mixed with the sweet message of the gospel, Christ died for sinners.

We repeat here; the truth that is brought forth from the New Testament scriptures, seen in: **Mt 22:36-40; 36 "Master, which is the great commandment in the law? 37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."**

When we examine the 10 commandments we find:

- The first 4 are about the relationship of God and his people. They address how we are to have God first in our lives, and worship God with all our being. How we are to trust fully, and completely, upon God in all our walks and talks. If we fulfill the 1st New Testament commandment; we have fulfilled the first four of the Old Testament commandments of the law. Jesus summed these 4 commandments up into one in **Mt 22:37 "This is the first and great commandment."**
- Next we see; Christ did not stop at the 1st great commandment, but carried on with the 2nd New Testament commandment in **Mt 22:39 "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."** In so doing, Jesus put all of the 6 remaining, of the 10 commandments, into one. These six commandments address the relationship of people to each other in Christian fellowship. You see, if you fulfill the 2nd New Testament commandment, "**Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**", you have fulfilled the last 6 of the Old Testament Ten Commandments of the law. Thus Christ could say in: **Mt 22:40 "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."** If you fulfill these two "**New Testament**" commandments, you have covered the spectrum of the Ten Commandments given in the Old Testament.

This should quite the protest of all those who claim; the Ten Commandments are Old Testament and do not apply to us today; and we don't have to follow them anymore. Now I ask you: Do you really believe that? If you do; you are defying the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is God the Son, and thereby, you are defying God the Father.

2 That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.

"that thy days may be prolonged." What days are prolonged? Days may be prolonged, in comparison to what? We see Israel is on a wilderness journey; where those who have refused to be obedient to God are to die. Thus, we see; their days have been shortened. They don't get to enter the Promised Land, and they don't reap the benefits of living in a land flowing with milk and honey.

Disobedience, to God, may cause God's judicial wrath to be poured out upon us, and we may die in the wilderness, and cut short, our time of fruitfulness to the glory of God, and the enjoyment of the abundant blessing of God in our lives.

We see; keeping the commandments of God bears the fruit "***thy days may be prolonged.***" God is saying to Israel, God's chosen people, if you are obedient to my voice, I will bless you abundantly, in the gift of the land that flows with milk and honey, and protection from your enemies.

God is saying to us today: If you keep my commandments; the days of your pilgrimage, on earth, will be filled with the fruit of enjoyment, of the outpouring of God's blessings and protection. You will enjoy much time of fellowship and communion with God, and with his people.

3 Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey.

We see that keeping the commandments of God bears more fruit "***that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily***" We see that the obedient have the blessing of the protection of God, and the surety of communion and fellowship with God, which may also include the blessings of health, and thereby, they may be blessed in procreation and grow in number.

We also see; to whom, and where, this fruit will be manifested:

- "***as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee,***" This "***if***" promise is to Israel, God's chosen people, which are the ones to whom Moses is speaking. They are the ones that will enter the Promised Land.
- "***in the land that floweth with milk and honey.***" "Where" is in the Land of Promise. As we consider this; we see a picture of the Church of Salvation by Grace in the world today.
- "***and that ye may increase mightily***" This is God telling Israel; if you do as I have said; I will increase your numbers in accordance therewith. As we examine the ups and downs in the numbers of believers through history; we see the correlation between the present day church and Israel. There have been times of great revival throughout history, and we can see revival again if we, God's people, humbly revere God, constantly seek his face in prayer and supplication, and worship him in Spirit and Truth. God will again bless our own lives to be fruitful, and may again cause a great revival of worship to His holy name.

It is the simple application of growth; the more fruit we produce the more seed that will be planted to bring forth more fruit. The key is: the fruit must be good fruit. You cannot live lives that are producing bad fruit, and expect to gather good fruit from it. If you are producing bad fruit, you are just sowing bad seed for the devil. However, if you live lives bringing forth good fruit, you can expect that it will produce more good fruit as seen in: ***Lu 8:11-15; 11 "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12 Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. 13 They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. 14 And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection. 15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience."***

4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: 5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

Verse 8 reminds me of something in the New Testament that speaks about the "*mark of the beast*". *Re 13:15-17; 15 "And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. 16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."*

Satan is always imitating God and trying to usurp God's authority. We see in this text in Revelation; satan is copying God's command, to bind his commandments upon your hand, and as frontlets between your eyes. Satan wants to replace God's commandments with his own mark; either placed on the hand or the forehead, in the stead of God's commandments.

We certainly don't want the mark of the beast because of what we see their doom will be in: *Re 19:20 "And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone."* An eternity here is bad.

9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates. 10 And it shall be, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not, 11 And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full; 12 Then beware lest thou forget the LORD, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

In verses 4-12, we see; God does not leave from telling them; "*Thou shalt have no other gods before me.*" We see; God continues to tell Israel to teach her children; the commandments, and statutes, of the Lord. Why? So, they, their children, and their children's children, might be the recipient of the blessings God listed:

- "*to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not*"
- "*houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not,*"
- "*wells digged, which thou diggedst not,*"
- "*vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not;*"
- "*when thou shalt have eaten and be full; Then beware lest thou forget the LORD,*"

This is another reminder to parents, to ministers, and the church, today; we are to teach people of all ages. The parents are commanded to teach the children, so parents need to know, and understand, the whole bible and its truths.

It is also a reminder of the promised blessing of fruitfulness spoken of above. Each, of the items listed, are a blessing from God to his people. Each is a testimony of the need of God's blessing to make us fruitful.

13 Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name. 14 Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which are round about you; 15 (For the LORD thy God is a jealous God among you) lest the anger of the LORD thy God be kindled against thee, and destroy thee from off the face of the earth.

If you accomplish verse 13, you will have accomplished verse 14 also. If the Lord thy God, truly is your God; you will have no other gods before you.

We see there is good fruit to be had from fulfilling verses 13-14. We see; there is a consequence for failing to fulfill verses 13-14; that consequence is given in verse 15; which is: total ruin and devastation from off the face of the earth. Remember, there is only one who can save your soul, and body, from eternal damnation, and that is God; seen in: **Mt 10:28 "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."** This turns our thoughts to another scripture: **Mr 9:24 "And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief."** Oh God! Help us to trust fully and wholly in thee.

16 Ye shall not tempt the LORD your God, as ye tempted him in Massah. 17 Ye shall diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and his testimonies, and his statutes, which he hath commanded thee. 18 And thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the LORD: that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest go in and possess the good land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, 19 To cast out all thine enemies from before thee, as the LORD hath spoken.

We see; additional fruit to be had by doing what God says. God says to Israel, if you give yourself wholly to me you will have these blessings:

- ***"it may be well with thee,"***
- ***"thou mayest go in and possess the good land, which the LORD sware unto thy fathers,"***
- ***"To cast out all thine enemies from before thee, as the LORD hath spoken."***

However, we notice; this is based upon the fact; Israel must enter into the Promised Land. This tells us today; if we expect the blessing of protection from our enemies, we must be in the Promised Land. In other words; we are to be an active part in the Church of Salvation by Grace. We are not just to be attending church, but rather, we are to be in membership and on the active duty roster by walking and talking, all of every day and night, in agreement with God's word of truth.

20 And when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What mean the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD our God hath commanded you? 21 Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand: 22 And the LORD shewed signs and wonders, great and sore, upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household, before our eyes: 23 And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he sware unto our fathers. 24 And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us

alive, as it is at this day. **25 And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us.**

We see, in verses 20-25; God is telling us; declare unto our children all the great things that God has done for us. God tells us to teach our children; there is a reason we do all that God has commanded us, which is: that we may have fruitful lives in the Land of Promise, with God's protection, and maybe God will choose our children to be his people also, as we saw in: ***De 4:37 "And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt;"***

Think about this for a moment; how many people have you told, in your life up to now, of what great things the Lord has done for you? Do your children know how your salvation came to fruition? Do your friends and neighbors know? Does your church family know? They need to know this so that; when you die they will not be "***without hope***"; as seen in scripture in: ***1Th 4:13-18; 13 "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words."***

You see: God is telling Israel; you need to tell your children how God has delivered you from the land of bondage, Egypt, and brought you to the Promised Land, which flows with milk and honey.

The reason for this is; to teach your children:

- They need to know; God is our deliverer, and all we have is by His blessings.
- They need to know; there is a reward for obedience to God; The reward is:
 - All this fruitfulness and abundance that they see and enjoy.
 - If they don't know why there is abundance in their lives; they will forget who and what God is to them.

The same is true for us today. There is much fruit and abundance in our spiritual lives, when we are born again, and continue to live in reverent obedience to God. However, we should remember, and teach our children; that beyond all the obedience required here in time, there are rewards that are eternal. The rewards here will seem as nothing in comparison to, the blessings of the eternal Promised Land where we will have: glorified bodies, immortal bodies, incorruptible bodies, no more satanic temptations, no sin, no sickness, no sorrow, (and our sin nature, inherit from fallen Adam, will be gone completely away from us), and there will be peace forevermore! Hallelujah! Praise the Lord for Salvation by Grace! Hallelujah! Praise ye the Lord!