

Memories of Miracles

Chapter 8

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson 22



Objective: to understand why God wants us to remember His works and His Word so we will remember to obey Him.



Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised you. Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

—Deuteronomy 6:3-5

There is a strong emphasis throughout the book of Deuteronomy on the importance of obeying the Word of God. When Israel obeyed God's laws, He blessed them. When they did not obey God's laws, they did not enjoy the blessings of God. Moses points that out very eloquently and then preaches that they must obey the Word of God.

Deuteronomy is a collection of sermons. Chapter 5 is a repetition of the Ten Commandments in which Moses tells the Hebrews to have hearts for God and to obey His commandments. The great sermon of Moses in chapter 6 became the basic Jewish confession of faith, called the "Shema," which means "hear" in Hebrew. Chapter 8 of Deuteronomy gives us another eloquent and profound sermon of Moses about the importance of obeying God's Word. Moses followed this sermon with a great sermon on the grace of God. He tells us that God does not bless us because we are good. God blesses us because He is good and because He loves us, not because we deserve it. That is what the word "grace" means.



1. **True** or false? The book of Deuteronomy represents the last words of Moses to Israel.

2. True or **false**? It is possible to teach children God’s Word and nurture their obedience without having a relationship with them.

3. True or **false**? It is possible to teach your children to obey God without obeying Him yourself.

Unless otherwise noted, choose one answer for each question.

4. What does Moses say about those who love and obey God?

- a. **They are blessed.**
- b. They are cursed.
- c. They are just like everyone else.
- d. They will never sin again.

5. Which of the following are the two key words in Deuteronomy? (choose only two)

- a. Sacrifice
- b. Obey**
- c. Conquer
- d. Reward
- e. Love**

6. Which of the following is repeated from earlier Scripture in the book of Deuteronomy?

- a. The story of creation
- b. The Ten Commandments**
- c. The ten plagues of Egypt
- d. The story of Noah’s flood

7. According to Moses, what is the Word of God all about?

- a. Rules and requirements
- b. How the world will end
- c. How God “divorced” humanity because of our sin
- d. Teaching us about life and leading us to true life**

8. Where did Israel’s leaders first learn about God?

- a. At a special school
- b. In a library
- c. In real-life experience**
- d. From their ancestors

9. What attitude were the Israelites told to have about God’s miracles?

- a. Forget about them
- b. Complain whenever they stopped happening
- c. Remember them and tell their children about them**
- d. Always demand more

10. What kind of relationship did God have with His people?
- a. **A covenant, a kind of contract**
 - b. A master-slave relationship
 - c. An equal partnership
 - d. A relationship based on rituals
11. How many of God's commands did Moses say Israel should be careful to obey?
- a. At least 50 percent
 - b. 90 percent, if possible
 - c. **All of them**
 - d. Whichever ones were convenient
12. When is it easiest to forget God's Word?
- a. When life is full of trials
 - b. **When you have plenty and are prosperous**
 - c. When you need answers to life's questions
 - d. When you study God's Word



How would you describe God's covenant with Israel? How would you describe His covenant with you? How does it make you feel that God treats you with love and respect as one of His own children?



Thank God for His love and His grace. Ask Him in what ways He would like you to be more faithful to Him. Then ask for His help to do that.



Going Deeper

1. Explain the great sermon of Moses in the first three verses of Deuteronomy chapter 8, where he tells God's people how their God made them know His Word. _____

2. Describe difficult times, places and experiences where God made you know His Word.

3. Why did God give us an entire book in His inspired Word just to exhort us to remember, love and obey? _____

4. As you consider your journey of faith, have your greatest periods of spiritual growth been when you were prospering or when you were being tested? Explain. _____

5. Why does God use repetition so much in the Bible? What are some of the things God repeats in His Word and why? _____

6. When you consider these great Sermons of Moses in Deuteronomy, especially at the end of this book, explain his objection that he was not eloquent or articulate, when God first called him. _____

7. Why does God give parents the responsibility for the nurture and education of their children? _____
