

More Great Sermons of Moses

Chapter 9

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson 23



Objective: to understand the sermons of Moses that teach us about our proper response to God's grace.



And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

—Deuteronomy 10:12-13

After Moses' great sermon on God's grace in Deuteronomy 9, he preaches a sermon about our response to God's grace in chapter 10. God loves us even when we fail. Nothing you do can cause God to stop loving you. His love is not conditional. God does not love you because you are good, and He will not stop loving you if you are bad. The emphasis here is not on our performance, but on how we respond to His grace.

In chapter 13, Moses tells us in a sermon about apostasy about those who no longer respond to God's grace. Apostasy means "to stand or fall away from a position that you have taken with God." Moses also preached a sermon in chapter 14 on tithing (giving God one-tenth), another response to God's grace. Tithing teaches we should always put God first in our lives. In chapter 15, he preached about the importance of giving to the poor, and in chapter 18, he taught in very strong language that God forbids things of the occult like fortunetelling, communicating with the dead, and using magic.

As a prophet, Moses not only spoke God's laws to Israel, he also foretold some of Israel's future. For example, he told them that one day they would want a king, and that God would grant their wish. He also told them about the Prophet who would one day come and save them. God had given them a miraculous written Word, but He wanted to speak with them beyond that written Word. In His mercy and love for them, God was going to speak to them through a very special Prophet who would be their Prophet, Priest, and King.



1. True or false? God loves us because of what we have done.
2. True or false? We are to love others regardless of what they have done.
3. True or false? We can make God love us more if we give God our tithe.

Unless otherwise noted, choose one answer for each question.

4. What is God's grace toward us based on?
 - a. Our performance
 - b. Our good attitude
 - c. Our good works
 - d. His nature
5. Because of God's grace, what kind of attitude can we live with?
 - a. Insecure about our status with Him
 - b. Secure that He loves and forgives us
 - c. Uncertain about our future
 - d. Proud because we know we will always be forgiven
6. What should our response be to God's grace? (choose all that apply)
 - a. We should be motivated to serve and love Him more.
 - b. It should not change us because God loves us just the way we are.
 - c. We should humbly desire to be pure and set apart to Him.
 - d. We do not need His grace if we have not sinned.
 - e. His grace allows us to sin as much as we want to.
7. What does God think of apostasy (falling away and not living for Him anymore)?
 - a. It is a very serious sin.
 - b. It bothers Him a little, but He still loves us.
 - c. His grace covers it, so it is not a big problem.
 - d. He promises never to forgive it, even after the sinner repents.

8. What part of income is the tithe?
 - a. Half
 - b. Half of one percent
 - c. Ten percent
 - d. The first ten percent

9. What is the purpose of tithing?
 - a. God needs our money.
 - b. The church needs our money.
 - c. It reminds us to put God first in everything.
 - d. It is a payment for our sins.

10. What does the Old Testament teach about charity?
 - a. It is not important.
 - b. God is compassionate toward the poor, so we should be too.
 - c. Poor people deserve their poverty.
 - d. Poverty is a sign of spiritual maturity.

11. What commandment did God give to Israel's kings?
 - a. To copy the law and keep it with them always
 - b. To memorize the law
 - c. To leave the law to the priests, because it is not practical for kings
 - d. To force all the people in the kingdom to keep the law

12. Read Psalm 1:1-3. What is David's prescription for being blessed?
 - a. Read God's law.
 - b. Love God's law.
 - c. Do God's law.
 - d. all of the above

13. How does God feel about fortune-telling and contacting the dead?
 - a. He commands it.
 - b. He encourages it.
 - c. He does not like it, but He tolerates it.
 - d. He hates it.

14. Why does God not like occult practices?
 - a. Because they are not real
 - b. Because Satan is the source of them
 - c. Because He does not understand them
 - d. Because they only work half the time

Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.
 —Psalm 1:1-3

15. Who did Moses prophesy about?
- a. The Messiah, Jesus
 - b. All the kings of Israel
 - c. The prophet Elijah
 - d. The apostle Paul
16. What do Deuteronomy's laws about crime focus on primarily?
- a. The criminal's rights
 - b. The victim's rights
 - c. God's anger
 - d. The importance of capital punishment
17. According to Deuteronomy, what is the key to battle?
- a. The size of the army
 - b. The strength of the army
 - c. Faith
 - d. Finding the most effective strategy
18. The law of the "kinsman redeemer" is a great picture of _____.
- a. Marriage
 - b. Divorce
 - c. Life after death
 - d. Jesus
19. Moses ended his sermons with a choice. What was it?
- a. Between Egypt and the Promised Land
 - b. Between life and death
 - c. Between slavery and freedom
 - d. Between a kingdom or a democracy



Do you consider your life "blessed"? Why or why not? If not, what can you do to enter into God's blessing?



Thank God for the ways He has blessed you, and tell Him you want the fullest blessing He has for you. Ask Him to help you love and keep His Word so that you might be a blessing to those around you.



Going Deeper

1. Why has the sermon of Moses in Deuteronomy 6:4-9 been considered his greatest sermon by the rabbis for centuries? What was the purpose of that sermon? _____

2. When Moses prophesied that the people would have a king one day, why did he command that the king was to copy the first five books of the Bible in his own hand? Relate that to the first Psalm of David where, as the best king Israel ever had, he wrote that the blessed man should love God's Word and meditate on it day and night. _____

3. Why did Moses preach that, when they were marching off to battle, they should issue the order for so many to go home if they were frightened, had just married, or had planted a new vineyard? Relate that to Gideon. _____

4. Relate the great sermon of Moses at the end of this book, where he challenged the people to choose between life and death and to make many other choices with irreversible consequences, to the theology of some who believe that man has no free will because of the Providence of God in election and predestination. _____

5. In what way does the law of the Kinsmen-Redeemer (Deuteronomy 25: 5-10) demonstrate our redemption through Christ? How does being familiar with it give us the key to the book of Ruth? _____

6. Why did God so detest apostasy, murder, witchcraft, homosexuality and other sins? _____

7. What do we learn from the preaching of Moses about the grace of God, the love of God, the essential meaning of tithing, and why we should love and obey God? _____
