

The Gospel According to Moses

A Gracious Warning

Deuteronomy 4:9-31

Theme: Moses warns the people preparing to enter Canaan to remember covenant.

1) A Call to Remember The Covenant (vv. 9-14)

- A) Remember a God who _____ (vv.9-11)
- B) Remember a God who _____ (vv.12-14)
- C) Learning to listen to God because we _____ God

2) Warnings Against Breaking Covenant through Idolatry (vv.15-24)

- A) Watch out for _____ (vv.15-18)
- B) Be _____ (vv.19-20)
- C) The _____ of Moses (vv.21-24)

3) Evidences of Grace in the Covenant (vv.25-31)

- A) The certainty of God's _____ and judgment (vv.25-28)
- B) The promise of _____ (vv.29-31)

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- A) The certainty of God's _____ and judgment (vv.25-28)
- B) The promise of _____ (vv.29-31)

Small Group Questions

REFLECT

1. What three things does Moses warn Israel about in vv. 9,15 and 23?
2. Consider v.11 of our text then read Exodus 19:16-20. Take a moment to reflect on how visceral and terrifying this experience must have been.
Why do you think God revealed Himself to Israel in this way? See v.10, also Exodus 20:20.
3. V.12 seems to emphasize a formless but speaking God. Why do you think hearing God was more important than seeing Him? See v.15
4. How is this speaking God contrasted with idols in v28? See also Jeremiah 10:5; Psalm 115:4-8
5. Note how many times “fire” is referred to in this chapter. Why would God use fire to describe Himself in v.24? See Hebrews 12:28-29
6. According to Deut. 4:10, what was the purpose of God appearing at Sinai? What do you think God is trying to convey about Himself by appearing paradoxically in “fire” which by nature illumines, but also in darkness which by nature conceals?
7. All the other nations around Israel had visible representations of their gods. How would this have been a challenge for Israel?
Consider the observation of scholar Peter C. Craigie, *“To attempt to represent God by human form in wood or stone would be to undermine the transcendence of God, thus limiting Him.”* In light of this definition what is one way that idolatry is so dangerous even today? How do we try to contain or limit God today?
8. Think about the contrast between vv.28&29. What about Israel’s experience with the idols of Babylon would ultimately drive them back to God? What is it about the idols of our culture that ultimately don’t satisfy us today?
9. How does v.29 give hope to our fallen condition?

RESPOND

What are some practical ways we can ensure the next generation remembers God through learning and experience?

“Make them known to your children and children’s children”. What does this imply about the role of seniors in ministering to children? Is a parent’s discipleship responsibility ever over? Is there such thing as “retirement” from discipleship? How does this reality change things for you?

How does v.31 give us hope in the midst of our own failure and God’s gracious discipline? See Romans 8: 35-39.

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