

March 6th 2005: Overview of O.T.: Deuteronomy: Chapter 26

Oldest Preacher they have ever listened to (farewell messages)

The book of Deuteronomy.....is in fact....3 sermons preached by Moses ...120yrs old
After the completion of these sermons.....Enoch, Elijah...didn't need a funeral

- Deuteronomy.....second law.....It is the last of the five books....Moses wrote
- Some suggest that it was Jesus' favourite Old Testament scripture.....
- He quoted from it.....Temptations
- Deuteronomy is cited more than 80 times in 17 of the 27
- It directly predicts the coming of the Messiah as "a prophet like you".Deut 18:18.
This is confirmed as being Jesus in Acts 3:17-23.
- **"Beware lest you forget"** is a key theme of the book as is the **lesson that obedience brings blessing, and disobedience brings punishment.**

One of the delightful things.....about Deuteronomy.....
is how it reveals human side of Moses

Back in Exodus/Numbers we often found....people
complaining....disobeying.....angering God to the point.....
Often Moses who intervened

But in Numbers 20:9-13 we find a time.....their behaviour made Moses so angry.....
That when God asked Him to.....Moses acted in a wrong spirit towards....
Consequently we read in Numbers 27:12-14.....(Deut 32: 48-52)

Entering the Promised land had been on Moses mind.....40 years

Can you imagine his disappointment
And what was worst.....the people who had made him so angry>>>>children....enter

Three times early on in Deuteronomy he says....(1:37 3:26 4:21)
Because of you the Lord became angry with me also, and said:
You shall not enter it either

It was your fault.....You made me do it !!!.....Lovely human touch
And for those....feeling a little sorry for Moses...Over 1000 years later.....he did enter.

Above all these things however...it's the format of....want to emphasise
As I mentioned.....made up of 3 sermons which are set out as follows:-

FOCUS	First Sermon 1:1 – 4:43	Second Sermon 4:44 – 26:19	Third Sermon 27:1 – 34:12
TOPICS	What God Has Done	What God Expected of Israel	What God Will Do
DIVISIONS	Review of God's Acts for His People Israel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of:-- • The Ten Commandments • Ceremonial Laws • Civil Laws • Social Laws 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Covenant is Ratified • The Covenant for the New Land is outlined. • Leadership passes to Joshua • Moses is honoured

As I contemplated Deuteronomy.....I focused on the topics.....3 sermons
And it came to me very strongly
These are...the 3 sermons.....Need in our Lives constantly

These are the same 3 topics....that I need to be reminded of.....Continually

WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR ME

WHAT GOD EXPECTS OF ME

WHAT GOD WILL DO FOR ME

For the children of Israel.....What God Had Done.....was a major topic

God had rescued them from.....with mighty acts of power

He had provided for them in the wilderness:-

By His Presence....How His glory went before...Poss for them to approach Him..

By His provision.....He gave them manna.....meat

By His protection

But the truly amazing thing is... That God kept doing all that ...Despite their sinful rebellion.....

OUR STORY IS NO DIFFERENT

The Bible tells us.....while were yet sinners....Christ died for us
The Communion service.....was instituted by God the Son....to be a timely reminder
That it was our sin that caused Christ to suffer

That's why we should always treat.....special reverence
BEWARE LEST YOU FORGET.....warning of Deuteronomy.....**applies to us too**

BECAUSE

It is when we forget what God has done.....and what He does for us....
That we fall into rebellion.....
We become grumblers and complainers
Our hearts become hard and cold and critical.....towards the things of God

The Remedy is to be thankful

To be thankful every day.....for all that God has done for us

(Recently I told the story of the family in Townsville who were called to travel to Toowomba....how the car broke down.....Getting locked in a toilet....)

Francis Ridley Havergal....Take my Life and let it be.....Near the end of her life would jot down on a calendar something....often just a little thing....for which she thanked God

This is something that we can all do more of.....Being thankful
But the thing we must thank God for always....is His unfailing....Undeserved love

THE SECOND SERMON I NEED EVERY DAY IN MY LIFE.....

Is the understanding.....of What God Expects of Me

There in the wilderness.....Moses directed their thoughts back to the 10 commandments
And then directions.....relating to their way of worship..... society

God expects us to live in this world as His children

(I was watching the interview....Frederick and Mary.....Questions about all the expectations on her.....That's fair enough---I have the love; the position...accepted the responsibility)

When the Lord drew us to Himself.....

He made no secret of the fact.....Wants us to live holy lives.....

Ephesians 5:1-

There was no small print.....agreement when we became Christians

I'm sure the Lord is amazed.....at those who become believers.....then argue with Him about following His commands

Those who believe...yet hesitate about baptism

Or turn away from tithing.....or trusting.....or ministry....or sharing the good news

Because its all too hard

God has shown us in His Word.....what He expects of us.....And He confirms it by His Spirit

But like the Israelites.....We need to hear daily....WHAT GOD EXPECTS....

For we also....forget so quickly

THEN THE THIRD....NEED TO HEAR EVERYDAY.....WHAT GOD WILL DO

One of the most glorious truths....that we can hang onto.....GOD is in control of....

That was the message Moses proclaimed.....That God is Almighty

And God is in control of our future

He went on to paint a picture of their future...Because of their sin....at times ..not nice

But He also assured them....that God would never leave them....And He would achieve

That is even more true for you.....If you love Jesus:::::He has this life and the next....

Already mapped out for you.....What God said to Israel in Jer 29:11 is true for you

For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord; plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future

And what a future the Lord has for you.

A future of serving Him here...then living with Him for ever

And its that glorious future that we should be preparing for now

CS Lewis said:- Aim at Heaven and you will get earth thrown in: aim at earth and you will get neither

I believe that we tend to put too much energy into things of this earth

And not enough...into preparing for the next

Malcolm Muggeridge, journalist and author, and at one time a strong Atheist, said that from the time he was a boy, he had a sense of being a stranger in this world. He always felt there was a world beyond this to which he was moving.

Is that the way you feel this moving.....And if so.....what have you done this week
To prepare for it

(sending it on ahead...p347....) Matt 6:19-21...

Think today about all God is preparing for you.....thank Him for what He will do

Then be courageous enough...to ask Him.....What you need to do right now

TO BE PART OF IT.

