

## The LORD our God is One LORD

Deuteronomy 6: 4-9

Deuteronomy is the last of the books of the law known as the Pentateuch. It is known as a book of review. Moses was making preparations for Joshua to succeed him and he was offering a reminder to the people of their responsibilities to God. The forty years of wandering were now over and the Promised Land was in view.

Moses gives this review because of a new generation, a new leader, new challenges, as well as new temptations. The people had endured much and there would be more challenges ahead, but the plan of God had not changed. If they were to be successful in the new land, they needed to follow the direction that God had set forth for their fathers.

We live in a day that is unlike any we've known before. We too are dealing with a new generation that seeks a different way; new leaders who seem to have abandoned the principles of our faith; new challenges that seem more difficult; and new temptations to seek a different path. The words that Moses rehearsed in the ears of Israel thousands of years ago still hold relevance in our lives today. If we are to succeed and live as God intended, we must obey His commands. I want to look at the principles for living revealed in these verses. Our God has not changed, nor His ways. I want to preach on the thought in [V.4: The LORD our God is One LORD](#).

**I. Our Awareness of God (4)** – [Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD](#): Moses begins with a call to hear his words, words given of God. He reminds them of the sovereignty of God. We must keep in mind that Israel had been prone to wander and seek after other gods. While Moses was on Mt. Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments the people had convinced Aaron to make them a golden calf to worship. Their journey from Egypt had been plagued with idol worship. Moses reminded that God alone is LORD.

- This is a very compelling statement. [The LORD our God is one LORD](#). Moses refers to God with two distinct, yet different names. He is [LORD](#). (It is always in uppercase.) This is the name Jehovah and refers to God as the I AM, the self-existent One. It literally means Redeemer and is always associated with redemption. He also refers to Him as [God](#). This is the Hebrew word Elohim, meaning the Strong One, One who puts forth power. It is God's creative name. (It is a plural noun speaking of the Trinity.)
- So what does all of that mean to us? Is there application for our day? Sure there is. We are living in a time much like that which Israel faced. The situation may be different, but the circumstances are much the same. What we need in America, especially among the church, is a new found awareness of the sovereignty of God. He is [LORD](#) and He is [God](#).

- I can assure you that if we would see God for who He truly is our lives would be lived much differently. Our worship would be transformed. Our churches would be filled because others would desire to see what we were so consumed with. We need an awakening of the reality of God in our lives!

## I. Our Awareness of God (4)

**II. Our Affection for God** (5) – *And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.* Moses wasn't only reminded them to be aware of who God is, but to offer the heart-felt affection that He deserves. We are to love the LORD. This affection involves two aspects that we need to consider.

**A. It is Personal** – *And thou shalt love the LORD thy God.* Moses reminded them that this wasn't a God who wasn't known unto them; He wasn't a God that they had just heard about but hadn't experienced. He was **their** God. He had shown Himself mighty in their lives. He had brought them out of bondage and supplied their needs. He had cared for them and provided a Land of Promise for them to dwell. He was worthy of their love and affection because He was their God.

- Do you see the application? Our God isn't a God who is far away. He isn't a God that we've just read about in the pages of His Word. He isn't a God that only others serve or have the privilege to know. He is our God. He came to us when we were in bondage to sin. He set us free and redeemed us. He daily cares for us and meets our needs. Surely we ought to love the Lord for all that He has done for us. If the church can't love Him who can?

**B. It is Profound** – *And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.* Moses goes on to reveal the conditions of that love. It isn't a love that should be passive or inconsistent. It isn't a love that should ebb and flow like the tide. Israel had fallen victim to that in the past. God would prove Himself mighty among them and their love would be strong. Sadly it didn't take long until their love had faded and they were murmuring against the God who blessed them.

- Moses spoke of a love that was consuming, not one that was constantly changing. He spoke of loving God with all our heart, soul, and might. In essence we are to love God with all our being. Everything about us ought to be consumed with loving the Lord. Our lives ought to be built upon that love. Our love for God ought to be the presence that drives our existence.
- I am convinced that far too often our love for God isn't all that it should be. If we were literally consumed with a love for the Lord we wouldn't behave the way that we do at times. If we loved the Lord as we should our lives would be lived in light of His holiness. We would have

an overwhelming desire to be in His house. We would have a hunger for His Word. We would have a love and compassion for His people. We would offer worship unto His lovely name. Oh how we need to be consumed with a love for the Lord.

- Do you remember how it was when you first fell in love? You were consumed with that love. Your life seemed to revolve around that love. That is what we need with the Lord. We need to love Him in such a way that our days are planned with the intent of spending time with Him. As we go through our daily routines, He is the subject of our thoughts. That is a profound and consuming love. That is what we need to develop for Jesus!

### **I. Our Awareness of God (4)**

### **II. Our Affection for God (5)**

**III. Our Allegiance to God (6-9)** – Not only were the people to be aware of God and possess a proper affection for Him, but their lives were to be lived in allegiance to Him. This allegiance is based upon the Word of God. We must be committed to the Word as God commands. This involves more than a casual reading of the Bible once in a while. There are several aspects of our allegiance that we need to consider.

**A. The Realm of our Allegiance (6)** – *And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:* The Word of God wasn't just to be heard and forgotten. It wasn't to be read and laid aside. It was to be taken to heart. It was to be hidden within the heart and meditated upon. God knew that if His Word was within their hearts that He would direct their paths. Their lives would follow Him if His Word was within. *Ps.119:105 – Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*

- We need to hide God's Word within our hearts. It must be the authority for all that we do in life. Far too often we live as we please rather than according to God's Word. When His Word isn't within our hearts, that is when we stray and miss the mark. *Ps.119:11 – Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.*

**B. The Responsibility of our Allegiance (7a)** – *And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children.* The people had a responsibility concerning the Word of God that went beyond their hearts. They were commanded to teach the words and commandments of God diligently unto their children. Moses knew that a generation that failed to hear God's Word would be a generation that failed to heed God's Word. He had witnessed hearts of rebellion on the

wilderness and that is not what he or God desired for those who were to enter the Promise Land.

- There is an important aspect to this responsibility that we need to consider. We are not commanded just to teach our children the Word of God, but we are to do so **diligently**. This brings our responsibility to a higher level. The word **diligently** means “*to whet or sharpen*.” It carries the idea of stabbing or penetrating. Clearly this is something that will have lasting effects. We are to teach our children the ways and Word of God until it penetrates their being. It is heard so often that it literally becomes a part of their lives. We are to literally saturate our children with the precepts of God.

- I fear that many leave this responsibility to the Pastor or Sunday school teacher. They too have a responsibility to fulfill, but it cannot and will not take the place of godly instruction within the home. If God’s Word isn’t in our hearts, we will not instill it in our children. Where do we stand tonight?

**C. The Reach of our Allegiance** (7b) – **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.** Moses declared that their allegiance to God must reach beyond the privacy of the home. It is important there, but that isn’t all. Our lives must be consumed with an allegiance to God. Now this isn’t to say that we must only speak of spiritual matters, but we must not neglect them.

- We must be mindful of the Lord with the home. How often does the Lord or His Word come up in conversation at your house? How often does the family discuss the things of God?

- Also we are to maintain our allegiance to God as we walk throughout this life. Our relationship with the Lord isn’t confined within the home or in many instances the church. We are to live godly before this world each day that we live. We are responsible to speak of the Lord and share His love and grace with those that we meet along life’s way.

- Lastly the reach of our allegiance involves lying down at night pondering the things of God and waking each morning with a desire and commitment to serve the Lord. Simply Jesus ought to be the last thing that we think of at night and our first thought in the morning. We ought to praise Him for His blessings at night, offer our petitions and concerns, and wake with a prayer for the day ahead that we might be used of God.

**D. The Resignation of our Allegiance** (8) – **And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.** Frontlets were small adornments worn on the head that contained particular passages of Scripture. The Jews would bind them

upon their bodies as a reminder of the Word of God. It was also an outward testimony to their submission and commitment to serve the Lord.

- Are our lives bound by the Word of God? Do we live each day in submission to His will? Are we resigned to fulfilling that which God desires of us? Genuine allegiance will submit to the authority and will of God.

**E. The Reminder of our Allegiance (9) – [And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates](#).** Consider the impact that this practice would have had on the Israelites. When they left in the morning, the Word of God was written upon the gates they passed through. When they returned in the evening, the Word was written on the door post. This served as a constant reminder of their obligation to the Lord.

- We too need those reminders in our daily lives. We need to leave out each morning reminded of our Lord. If we would begin each day with Christ on our minds it would make a difference throughout the day. When we get home in the evening we need to be reminded of the Lord. This would stand as a challenge concerning our commitment to Him each day. Did I do all that I could have for His glory? Was I a positive witness for the Lord? No doubt we all need to be reminded of our obligation to serve the Lord.

I trust that you have been encouraged as well as challenged by the Word this evening. We serve a precious Lord who is worthy of our praise and commitment. He gave His all that we might have life and have it more abundantly. The least we can do is live for Him and share His grace with the world around us. If there is a need in your life, bring it to Jesus.