

Our Preacher Says:

To make wrong choices is morally fatal, for wrong moral choices constitute sin. "Sin," said Jeramy Taylor, "that startles a man is the first step; then it becomes pleasing, then easy, then delightful; then frequent and habitual. The man is imperturbable, then obstinate, then resolves never to repent, and then is damned."

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COME TO CHURCH

Creamed
Comments
On S. S.
Lesson 14

Creamed Comments on the Sunday School Lesson. God's Command to Teach, Deuteronomy 6:1-25 for Sunday, October 21. The Rev. D. Carl Yoder.

Moses has reached the end and gives his parting words to the Israelites. He says nothing of himself and his achievements, but stresses the fact of God whom all need to revere devotedly. They are to have open hearts and minds that will allow God's love to come in. So important is this truth that it needs to be written out and carried on the body, and more than this, it is to be sacredly taught to the children of all times.

V. 1. "Now these are the commandments, the statutes and the judgments which the Lord your God commanded to teach you that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it." Moses, who forty years before had delivered to Israel the Ten Commandments, and, during the years, presented other teachings, now as he comes to the end of his leadership, reminds God's chosen people to remember and do them. Here is a good example of parents giving good advice in their closing days — remember and do what God has revealed.

V. 2. "That thou mightest fear the Lord thy God to keep and his statutes and commandments which I commanded thee and thy son and thy son's son all the days of thy life; that thy days may be prolonged." The word "fear" means reverence and respect; to thus live, produces a well-ordered life, which as a rule means a longer life.

V. 3. "Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it, that it may be well with thee and that ye may increase mightily as the Lord God of your fathers has promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey." The word "hear" is to listen well and to live well. Again the promise of prosperity is the purpose of God expressed in human lives.

Vs. 4, 5. "Hear, O Israel. The Lord our God is one Lord: and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, with all thy soul and with all thy might." Love of God is basic in all God's commandment, adding "with all thy mind." Reason, intellect, will and emotion are included in the love of man for his Lord.

V. 6. "And these words which I command you this day shall be in your heart." The heart is the vital physical organ, the fountainhead of life. So, at the fountain of our soul, the spiritual life imbibes the thoughts and the spirit of God's word.

V. 7. "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children and shall talk of them when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou walkest by the way and when thou liest down and when thou riseth up." Here is outlined the ideal Christian program for the home. The failure of parents to give practical Christian teaching is seen in juvenile delinquency and in love.

Vs. 8, 9. "And thou shalt bind them as a sign on thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes ad thou shalt write them on the posts of thine house and on thy gates." The heathen had the custom of thus presenting their religion. God's children are not to be outdone in Christian witness.

V. 10. "Ad when thy son asketh of thee in time to come, saying,

what mean these testimonies and statutes and the judgments which the Lord thy God hath commanded you?" The secret of good teaching is to arouse the inquiring minds to ask good questions.

V. 21. "Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt, and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand." The story of Israel's deliverance served to give them a faith in God, the Deliverer of all time. This teaching reaches to the present day. The same thought is expressed in the next two verses because of its great importance. Faithful obedience to God assures a heavenly reward.

V. 24. "And the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive as it is this day." Whatever may happen is for our good, although we may not see it thus at the time. Herein lies the righteousness of God as taught in the next verse.

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