

# DEUTERONOMY 6-7

February 5, 2012

Today we will study chapters six and seven of the book of Deuteronomy.

**What are the primary roles that parents are to fulfill in the lives of their children?**

- Protection, provision, leadership, direction, morals, clothing, food, housing, TEACHER.

**6:1-2 Look at verses 1 and 2. What is the end goal of teaching the Bible?**

- It is not “information”; it is application and obedience (teach...that you might do them...keep all His statutes).

**What does it mean to fear the Lord?**

- It primarily means to obey Him. It also means to reverence and honor Him with your life. It also implies that we have a fear of disobeying Him.

**Doesn't grace and forgiveness mean that we should not “fear” the Lord?**

- No. See *Psalm 130:4*. [But you offer forgiveness that we might learn to fear you.] NLT

**According to Joshua 1:8, what is it that brings prosperity into our lives?**

- We learn the Word (meditate on it) so that we will DO the word (obey). Success is the result of obedience.

**6:2-3 What are the two results of doing what God tells us to do that are mentioned in verses 2 and 3?**

- First, our lives will be more stable and secure (days prolonged – not removed from the land). Second, obedience brings God's blessing to our lives (that it may go well with you). See *verses 17-18 and 24*.

**6:4 What do you think it means when it says that the Lord our God is one in verse 4?**

- We know from the rest of Scripture that God is a trinity; He is three persons in one. But He is completely ONE. There is no distinction in essence of character in Him. See *John 14:9 & 10:30*. There is never difference or disagreement within the Godhead. [9 Jesus replied, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you?”] [30 The Father and I are one.”] NLT

**6:5 What do you think it looks like when someone loves God as described in verse 5?**

- They obviously are obedient to Him. They are becoming like Christ in their character. See *1 Peter 1:14-16*. They are serving God and His church with their gifts. See *Acts 13:36 and 1 Peter 4:10-11*. They are seeking to help people say “yes” to God (*Mathew 28:19-20 & Acts 1:8*). They are fellowshiping with and serving other believers (all of the “one another” verses).

**6:6 Look at verse 6. How do you get God's words on your heart?**

- It is more than just getting them in your head. You read the Word; you study the Word; you think about the Word (meditate); and you DO the word (*James 1:22*). See *Psalm 119:9-11*. [9 How can a young person stay pure? By obeying your word. 10 I have tried hard to find you—don't let me wander from your commands. 11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. NLT

### **6:7-9 & 20-25 How does God tell us to teach our children about him in verses 7 to 9 and 20 to 24?**

- *We are not instructed to do a formal study but to have our lives revolve around knowing the Lord and discussing His Word and His ways. We are to continually look for teachable moments (when we sit, walk, go to bed, and wake up in the morning). Verses 8 and 9 talk about having truth visibly displayed for them to see. Verses 20 to 24 teach us that we are to remember how God has led us, grown us, corrected us, and blessed us and we are to tell our kids what He has done.*

### **What keeps us from telling our kids what God has done in our lives?**

- *In some cases, we haven't loved and obeyed Him well and He hasn't done that much in our lives. In some cases we are too busy because our lives are consumed by lesser things (internet, TV, sports, etc.). In some cases we haven't taken the time to slow down, reflect upon, and record what God has done in our lives and how He has led us. How valuable would it be for you to have a long list of what you learned (by doing things right and by mistakes) as a teenager seeking to follow Christ or a list of your regrets about not following Christ as a teenager?*

### **6:10-12 What principles do we learn from verses 10 to 12?**

- *First, we tend not to appreciate what we don't have to work for. Second, we tend to move away from God in prosperity. When we hurt or are in need, we tend to cry out to Him, seek Him, move toward Him. Ease, though, causes us to think that we don't need God or that we are somehow self-made. See Deuteronomy 8:11-20. [11 "But that is the time to be careful! Beware that in your plenty you do not forget the Lord your God and disobey his commands, regulations, and decrees that I am giving you today. 12 For when you have become full and prosperous and have built fine homes to live in, 13 and when your flocks and herds have become very large and your silver and gold have multiplied along with everything else, be careful! 14 Do not become proud at that time and forget the Lord your God, who rescued you from slavery in the land of Egypt. 15 Do not forget that he led you through the great and terrifying wilderness with its poisonous snakes and scorpions, where it was so hot and dry. He gave you water from the rock! 16 He fed you with manna in the wilderness, a food unknown to your ancestors. He did this to humble you and test you for your own good. 17 He did all this so you would never say to yourself, 'I have achieved this wealth with my own strength and energy.' 18 Remember the Lord your God. He is the one who gives you power to be successful, in order to fulfill the covenant he confirmed to your ancestors with an oath. 19 "But I assure you of this: If you ever forget the Lord your God and follow other gods, worshiping and bowing down to them, you will certainly be destroyed. 20 Just as the Lord has destroyed other nations in your path, you also will be destroyed if you refuse to obey the Lord your God.] NLT*

### **6:15 Why is it right for God to be "jealous" in verse 15?**

- There is only one God. It is impossible to serve two gods at the same time. See Matthew 6:24. There is only room for one God in our lives. Proper jealousy is legitimate for a married couple because there is only room for one mate in our lives.

### **What are the kinds of things that take God's place in our lives?**

- People (dates, mates, kids, parents), possessions (money, homes, cars, etc.), careers, pleasure, sports and hobbies, etc.

**6:20-25 In verses 20 to 25 parents are told to tell about God and their history with Him. If your teenager asked you why you should follow the Lord rather than be like the worldly kids at school, how would you answer them? Could you write it down and a few of you share your answer in the class?**

**7:1-5, 16, 25-26** Look at **chapter 7 verses 1 to 5, verse 16, and verses 25 to 26**. Notice that God tells them to completely destroy the people in the land. **Why did God tell them to do this?**

- *First, God is punishing these people for their godless lifestyles, which include doing all of the things that God tells Israel not to do. See Deuteronomy 9:4-5. See Leviticus 18:24-28. Second, because of our sin natures, it is easier to influence someone to do the wrong thing than it is to influence someone to do the right thing. See 1 Corinthians 15:33. [33 Don't be fooled by those who say such things, for "bad company corrupts good character."] NLT*

**Who is a great Biblical example of how it is easier to pull down than to lift up?**

- The best example is probably **Solomon**. As a young man he just wanted to be a great leader of God's people and wrote the book of wisdom (**Proverbs**). As an old man his non-Jewish wives turned him away from the Lord (**1 Kings 11:1-9**) and into a cynic (**Ecclesiastes – all is vanity**).

Notice in **verse 25** that they were not to take for themselves any of the silver or gold that were on the idols in the land. Basically they were "throwing away" money to be holy.

**7:3** What is the New Testament parallel to **verse 3**?

- *See 2 Corinthians 6:14-18. Christians are not to marry unbelievers. [14 Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? 15 What harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever? 16 And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God said: "I will live in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 17 Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the Lord. Don't touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you. 18 And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."] NLT*

**Does this mean that a Christian should divorce his unbelieving spouse?**

- **No.** *See 1 Corinthians 7:12-16. [12 Now, I will speak to the rest of you, though I do not have a direct command from the Lord. If a Christian man has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to continue living with him, he must not leave her. 13 And if a Christian woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to continue living with her, she must not leave him. 14 For the Christian wife brings holiness to her marriage, and the Christian husband brings holiness to his marriage. Otherwise, your children would not be holy, but now they are holy. 15 (But if the husband or wife who isn't a believer insists on leaving, let them go. In such cases the Christian husband or wife is no longer bound to the other, for God has called you to live in peace.) 16 Don't you wives realize that your husbands might be saved because of you? And don't you husbands realize that your wives might be saved because of you?] NLT*

**7:7** What does **verse 7** tell us about God's love?

- His love for us is about who He is, not who we are. It's about how loving He is, not how loveable we are.

**7:9** What incredible promise is found in **verse 9**?

- He will bless to the **1000th generation** if our families continue to obey him.

**7:12-16** What do we learn about God's promises in **verses 12 to 16**?

- *God's blessing on their lives is determined by their obedience to Him. If they will obey Him then He will...*

**7:17-24 What do we learn about fear and God in verses 17 to 24?**

- *When God is on our side, we have nothing to fear. If we "fear" God properly, then we have no reason to fear anything else. Fear is an indicator that we are trusting in our own power and strength, not in God's power and strength.*