

45: July 25, 2026

Shabbat Message

Va'etchanan / And I Besought / וַאֲתַחֲנֶן

Deuteronomy 3:23–7:11

* Shabbat Nachamu

Seeds of Life Series: Torah the Seeds for Life

Our Unchanging God

Introduction

We are a very important chapter in Deuteronomy as this is a recap of the Ten Commandments not Suggestions and also the Shema which is the central praying of Judaism and not only

Judaism but Yeshua and all of the Apostles of the Renewed Covenant Scriptures prayed this prayer as well. In this portion we are encouraged to teach the Torah to our children throughout the whole day and also before they go to be. We are instructed to write them on our doorways and on our gates...literal.

Israel Exhorted to Obey Yehovah

Deuteronomy 4:1-3

1. Statutes and judgements are technical terms referring to elements common to covenant texts. They occur together regularly in Deuteronomy and always to describe Yehovah's requirement of His people Israel with whom He had entered into covenant fellowship.
2. You shall not add or take away (diminish) His Word. (Joshua 1:7; Proverbs 30:6; Eccl. 12:13).
3. Baal-peor was the place in Transjordan where Israel was first seduced into licentious worship of the fertility deity (Numbers 25:1-9). As a result Yehovah commanded Moses to kill all the men who had participated in this sexually perverse paganism.

Idolatry Forbidden

Deuteronomy 4:13-18

1. The Ten Commandments were the foundational principles upon which the covenant

between Yehovah and Israel was based.

2. As with legal texts in general, there must be two copies. Exodus 32:15 points out that each of the two tables of stone was written on both sides.
3. To conceptualize Elohim in a manufactured image or likeness was to limit His power and glory. To worship idols of other gods was to deny Elohim's uniqueness and sovereignty.

His People Are His Inheritance

Deuteronomy 4:20-24

1. The description of Egypt as an iron furnace is a metaphor for a smelter or crucible whose function was to melt down metals under such intense heat that all the dross and other impurities were separated from them leaving them put and usable (Prov 17:3).
2. Yehovah had allowed Israel to suffer in Egypt so they would be better prepared to be not him a people of inheritance (1 Kings 8:51; Jer 11:4-5; Zech 13:9; Mal 3:3).
3. Elohim is never envious of any or anything, but He empathically states and defends His right to exclusive worship by His people (6:14-15).

Heaven and Earth Are Witness

Deuteronomy 4:26-27

1. Since human beings are not qualified to certify the durability and reliability of Elohim's

promises and since not other gods are higher to serve as witnesses Moses invoked heaven and earth to serve that function.

2. That nations and heathen most immediately in view are the Assyrians and Babylonians who took Israel and Judah captive in 722 and 586 B.C. respectively.
3. Since then Greece, Rome and other world powers have successively uprooted our people for various reasons including their violation of the covenant Yehovah made with them. (2 Kings 17:7-41; 2 Chron 36:15-19).

When You Seek Me With All Your Heart

Deuteronomy 4:29-31

1. When Israel went into exile they would find Yehovah if they sought Him with all their heart and soul.
2. Yet the promise is clear that this would happen because they would in fact return to Yehovah in the latter days. Yehovah's promises to his chosen people must come to pass because He has sworn by His own reputation to make it so. (30:6-10; Gen. 17:3-8; Jer 31:31-34; Ezek 36:24-30; Rom 11:1-2, 25-26).
3. He thus provides the grace by which Israel can believe, repent and return (Rom. 11:28-32).

Take Away

1. The Ten Commandments are the foundation on which the whole Torah is built upon they

are NOT the only commandments that we are to ignore.

2. Idolatry has been forbidden by Yehovah's Word and we should uphold that.
3. If you are seeking Yehovah with all of your heart and soul you will find Him. (Matthew 6:33).

Application

1. I will continue to obey the commandments that Yehovah has given us....ALL of them as applicable.
2. I will rejoice that we are Yehovah's inheritance....are we acting like it?
3. I will seek first Yehovah's Kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto me says Yeshua!! (Matthew 6:33).

Beth Ohr Messianic Congregation

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