

The Greatest Commandment - Deuteronomy 6

4/3/24

Background

- Israel is on the cusp of entering the promised land after wandering the wilderness for nearly 40 years, and are encamped in the plains of Moab, east of the Jordan River.

vs. 1-3 Intro

- the fear the Lord sets the stage for everything
- blessing was contingent on obedience

vs. 4-9 Shema

- the word Shema is the Hebrew word meaning “hear” or “listen”. Is recited morning & evening to this day by Jews. It is their hope to be what they utter on their death beds
- “The people were to think about these commandments and meditate on them so that obedience would not be a matter of formal legalism but a response based upon understanding.” John MacArthur

vs. 10-19 Warnings

- Israel was to be reminded that their possession of the Promised Land and its contents was all of grace
- Summary: 2 Warnings for when they enter the Promised Land
 1. Do not forget it was the Lord who delivered you from Egypt and has given you the Promised Land
 2. Drive out all the Canaanites who inhabit the land

vs. 20-25 Instruction for the Future

- The continued blessing of God was dependent upon Israel's righteousness

Application

1) Fear the LORD

- the Hebrew for fear has a double meaning of “awesome respect” & “trembling dread”

2) Remember God's Faithfulness

- pass it on to the next generation
- the responsibility is the parents

3) No One is Righteous, No Not One

- How does Israel do? Judges 2:9-15