

Dec 05, 2021



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

**The Oaks
Baptist Church**
Grand Prairie, Texas

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

It's the servant who hears. May we also choose to listen to and obey what God has revealed in the Scriptures. Let's submit our lives to Him and take the posture of humble servants

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

Dear Jesus, thank You for being a speaking God. Thank You for the Scriptures that help me follow You in obedience. Speak, Your servant is listening

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

Now the Lord came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears

(1 Sam 3:10 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", Aug 31, 2020)

Series: Justice, Law, History

UNIT 1: God Requires Justice

NEXT WEEK

Justice and Kindness
(2 Sam 9:1-7, 9-12)

Justice and Obedience **Deut 5:1-3; 10:12-13; 27:1-10**

Lesson Background and Introduction

God desired that Israel be known as a people well acquainted with his righteous standards. He expressed that desire in terms of a covenant. The covenant served as the formal agreement between God and his people, describing how Israel was to live as a holy people and how God committed to making Israel his people. Covenants were not unique to ancient Israel. Other ancient Near Eastern cultures used similar legal agreements, often made between a more powerful kingdom and a lesser kingdom. The "one thing" for Israel was to be their obedience to God and his law. This was how they were to live according to the covenant. Moses recognized this requirement, and it's the main reason imperatives like obey, keep, serve, and do are found throughout this week's Scripture text. A people obedient to the commands of God would have a proper understanding of justice and just living (see Leviticus 19:15-16; Deuteronomy 16:20; Isaiah 1:17; Zechariah 7:9). It was one thing for Israel to write God's laws on stones; it was quite another thing to practice faithful obedience to those laws. May we write God's laws on our hearts and practice faithful obedience in all areas of our lives (2 Corinthians 3:3).

(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)

The Instruction - The period of waiting ended for the new generation of Israelites. God fulfilled His promise and allowed them to cross the Jordan River and enter the promised land. Prior to the crossing, Moses addressed the elders, giving them instructions for the groups under their tutelage. God gave each instruction wrapped in His love. Obedience—Moses reviewed the Lord's instructions demanded of the earlier generation. Although the older congregation died in the wilderness, their pledge to obey God applied to this new generation.

Love - The Lord wanted His children to take Him seriously. He did not want the congregation to run from Him in paralyzing dread, but to love Him enough to listen to His words, allowing His guidelines to influence their thinking and behavior. Moses challenged the Hebrew children to set their affection on God. What a privilege to associate with Him in a close relationship.

Service - Yahweh had a plan for the Israelites, and He has one for us. He longs for His children to place their feet into His footprints, allowing Him to lead, no longer going in their own made-up direction. He carves out visible footsteps for those who are looking for them—a life pattern. Moses commanded the people to give their total allegiance to God and experience deep joy. Moses and the 70 elders had laid out God's instructions. With a heart of obedience, the congregation agreed. Moses emphasized not to just hear what God has to say, but apply His principles each day. What Moses said was designed to keep people in good relationship with God, their King. Every instruction given by Jehovah is for our good. The Lord wrote every command in the backdrop of His love.

(Adapted from the Echoes Commentary)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Binding Covenant (Deut 5:1-3)

Covenant of laws (1-2)

- Laws put into effect through the Mediator (Gal 3:19)
- Laws that are put into man's heart (Heb 10:16)
- Laws that are perfect and revives the soul (Ps 19:7-8)
- Laws that are holy (Rom 7:12-14)
- Laws that the world is held accountable to (Rom 3:19)
- Laws that uncover sin (Rom 7:7)
- Laws that lead us to Jesus by faith (Gal 3:24)

Covenant with God's people (3)

- A covenant that puts an end to all arguments because God cannot lie (Heb 6:16-18)
- A covenant that is based on a promise (Gal 3:17-18)
- A covenant from God because there is no one greater (Heb 6:13)
- A covenant that is holy and righteous because of the power of Jesus' blood (Heb 12:24)
- A covenant through God's promises (Acts 2:39)
- A covenant for all who belong to God (Gal 3:27-29)

Basic Requirements (Deut 10:12-13)

Requirements to be lived (12)

- Live by persevering (Heb 10:36)
- Live by being a doer of the word of God (James 1:22)
- Live by not neglecting God's word (Ps 119:16)
- Live by putting God's word into practice (Ezek 33:31-32)
- Live by remaining in God (John 15:4)

Requirements that result in goodness (13)

- A goodness that is done at every opportunity (Gal 6:10)
- A goodness that is one of the fruit of righteousness (Eph 5:9)
- A goodness that is pleasing to God (Heb 13:16)
- A goodness that is no one can do except through God (Luke 18:19)

Obedience to God's Commandments (Deut 27:1-10)

Commandments that are to be learned (1-3)

- Learn through teaching at Church (Eph 4:10-13)
- Learn to distinguish between good and evil (Heb 5:13-14)
- Learn from teachers who have the Word of God dwelling in them (Col 3:16)
- Learn from the Holy Spirit who will teach us (1 John 2:27)
- Learn through listening to godly counsel (Prov 1:5)
- Learn through being the presence of God (Deut 4:9-11)

Commandments that require an altar (4-8)

- An altar that requires innocence (Ps 26:6)
- An altar approached with praise, joy and delight (Ps 43:4)
- An altar where righteous sacrifices are brought (Ps 51:19)
- An altar where one can feel at home (Ps 84:3)
- An altar that is in a house of prayer (Isa 56:7)

Commandments that must be obeyed (9-10)

- Obey by being a slave to righteousness (Rom 6:15-18)
- Obey by living a life that proves obedience (2 Cor 9:13)
- Obey so that we will know God (1 John 2:3)
- Obey by living in God (1 John 3:24)
- Obey by being ready to do whatever is good (Titus 3:1)