

Mar 27, 2022



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

◆
Lesson Leaders:
James Haymon

Class Leaders:
Inreach: Pat Hester
Deacon: C M Hester

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:
Most people today aren't in danger of being physically bound, yet true liberation from the spiritual bondage of sin remains elusive

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:
Jesus, help us to believe that You can set us free

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:
Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed
(John 8:36 NKJV)
(from "Our Daily Bread", Apr 30, 2020)

Series: God Frees and Redeems

UNIT 2: Liberating Gospels

NEXT WEEK

Triumphal Entry of the King (Matt 21:1-11)

Free Because of the Lord Deut 8:1-11

Lesson Background and Introduction

Deuteronomy is a covenant renewal treaty, delivered by Moses in a series of speeches (Deuteronomy 1:1–4:43; 4:44–28:68; etc.). In these speeches, he recounted the covenant God made with Israel at Mount Sinai some four decades previously. Our text today, from Deuteronomy 8:1–11, falls under general stipulations in the second speech. One helpful way to categorize laws in the Bible is to distinguish between conditional and unconditional laws. Unconditional laws are what we have with the Ten Commandments. Conditional laws rightly begin with a conditional clause (beginning with "if" or "when," either expressed or implied), followed by a declarative judgment (beginning with "then," either expressed or implied; examples: Exodus 21:28–29; 22:26–27). God has given us words to remember, laws to live by. Our peace depends on remembering what God has commanded and then acting faithfully on that memory (see John 14:21). Though much has changed between when Israel stood at the boundary of the Promised Land and the time of the global church, we too are called to remember all that the Lord has done for us. We are not self-sufficient, God has given us all that we have. We must look to Him in times of both need and plenty. Only when we honor and fear Him like this can we call others to the same respect. And, of course, we bring not only knowledge of God's law but also the peace of God's forgiveness through Jesus' sacrifice. His love has been shown to us; let us show it also to the watching world. Only then will we experience life in our own good land—the world God created—and beyond, in his Heaven.

(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)

Remember! - The Scriptures use this word "remember" repeatedly. Specifically, God wanted the Hebrew children to recall His grace and mercy over their 40 years in the wilderness. It's essential to have an excellent memory of what the Lord has done to trust Him with your future.

A Heart Exam - When confronted with a test or trial, what is in the heart of a person becomes evident. God already knows the heart of every person, inside and out. But how well does each individual know their own heart? Or even want to know what is there? A prideful heart is a dangerous thing, but a meek spirit, humility in the eyes of God, is beautiful.

Learning Dependence - Each morning, the Hebrew children, while traveling to the Promised Land, had to rely on God's provision in order to survive. Unless He rained down manna each day, they had no way to get food. It took them 40 years to understand, but God eventually taught them how to depend on Him and Him alone for their substance.

God's Discipline - His correction for His children is never a punishment but always for training and maturing purposes. Being in God's classroom requires humility and being ready to submit to His will. As the Hebrew children looked to the Father for His words, at the same time, He took care of their material needs. The lesson here is, learn to obey and walk in His ways.

God's Provision - God led them to a well-watered land, fertile for growing crops and with plenty of drinking water for man and beast. The earth below contained copper, iron, and brass. They would never have to worry about food or supplies. It was a land of milk and honey—everything the Israelites needed and much more, God provided. Moses ended his admonishment to the crowd by saying, once again, not to forget the Lord and to keep His instructions. This is wisdom for Christians today as well. Before going to sleep at night, recall God's goodness. All too often, the nighttime thoughts are unrestful, thinking about challenges that have occurred, worries, or the "to do" list waiting in the morning. If the believer reflects on the past activities of the Lord and His goodness, it's easier to look forward to God's mercies the next day.

(Adapted from the Echoes Commentary)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Freedom through God's Guidance and Provisions (Deut 8:1-4)

Guidance through commandments (1)

Commandments that guides to discern and dismiss deceivers (Eph 4:11-15)

Commandments that guides to not losing what we have worked for (Phil 2:14-16)

Commandments that guides to receiving a reward (1 Cor 3:11-14)

Commandments that guides to God showing Himself to us (John 14:21)

Commandments that guides to gaining knowledge of God (1 John 2:3)

Guidance through testing (2)

Testing that refines (Ps 66:10)

Testing that proves faith genuine (1 Peter 1:7)

Testing that aids in receiving God's inheritance (Heb 11:8)

Testing to know what's in the heart (Deut 8:2)

Guidance through humbling (3)

Humbleness reduces humiliation from demotion (Prov 25:6-7)

Humbleness keeps man content with what he has (Prov 12:9)

Humbleness is rewarded in heaven (Matt 18:4)

Humbleness is like being a child in God's eyes (Luke 9:48)

Humbleness leads to God lifting us up (James 4:10)

Provisions of clothing (4)

Clothed with meekness (Col 3:12)

Clothed to not yield to worldly lusts (Rom 13:14)

Clothed with Jesus (Gal 3:27)

Clothed with immortality (1 Cor 15:54)

Freedom through Obedience to God (Deut 8:5-11)

Obedience through chastisement (5)

Chastisement that could include distress (Isa 8:20-22)

Chastisement that could include imprisonment (Ezra 7:26)

Chastisement that could include loss of life (Matt 18:6)

Chastisement for doing wickedness (John 5:28-29)

Chastisement because of being disobedient to God (2 Thess 1:7-9)

Obedience through fear of the Lord (6)

Fear of the Lord that provides health and strength (Prov 3:7-8)

Fear of the Lord that provides a productive life (Ps 128:1-2)

Fear of the Lord that provides knowledge of God (Prov 2:3-5)

Fear of the Lord that provides needs (Ps 34:9)

Obedience that leads to provisions (7-9)

Provisions when we are weak (1 Kings 19:5-8)

Provisions when we are needy (2 Kings 4:2-6)

Provisions that are supernatural (Matthew 14:17-21)

Provisions for good works (2 Cor. 9:8)

Obedience that leads to worship (10)

Worship of God only (Matt 4:10)

Worship in spirit and truth (John 4:23-24)

Worship to glorify God (Phil 3:3)

Worship with reverence and awe (Heb 12:28)

Obedience through warnings (11)

Warnings about wicked actions (Jer 7:13)

Warnings about obedience (Jer 7:23-24)

Warnings through past examples (1 Cor 10:11)

Warnings about false prophets (Jude 1:4)