

Subject: Things We Should Remember

Scripture: Deuteronomy 8:1-20

We celebrate Memorial Day because some things in our nation's history are too important to forget. We are prone to forget what is important, and that's why we need to be reminded. Someone asked a little boy: "What is memory?" "I believe it's that thing you forget with." It has been said that our tendency to forget is greater than our capacity to remember. We have "leaky minds." Many times in this chapter Moses tells the people to remember and do not forget.

Deuteronomy means "second law." This was not a second law in place of the law given to Moses in the form of the Ten Commandments, but it was a review of the law. In this book Moses reiterated the law and reminded the people of their obligation to follow God as they prepared to enter the Promised Land.

1. Remember to obey God's commands (vs. 1)

Moses had a simple message for the people: "Obey the Lord, and don't forget Him."

See **Deuteronomy 7:9-11**. There is a connection between loving God and obeying Him.

John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

There's a good old song that reminds us to obey what God says.

*When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word, what a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will, He abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey.
Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.*

2. Remember to appreciate God's goodness (vs. 2-4)

God gave them bread from heaven to eat, their clothes never wore out, and their feet didn't swell for forty years! The manna kept them alive and healthy all those years. Jesus quoted verse 3 in **Matthew 4:4** *But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.* God spoke the manna into existence each day, so the people really lived by the words of God.

Can you imagine when those wives told their husbands they wanted a new dress, their husbands would say, "What's wrong with that one? It looks as good as the day you first put it on." God took care of their basic needs, not their wants.

1 Timothy 6:6-8 *But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.*

3. Remember to respect God's discipline (vs. 5-6)

God brought them through the wilderness to humble them, prove them, and discipline them so they would obey Him and depend on Him. Testing proves precious metal and testing proves godly character. The songwriter captured this truth when he wrote, *When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, My grace all sufficient shall be thy supply. The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.*

4. Remember to trust God's promises (vs. 7-10)

When God's people were finally settled in the land God had promised, Joshua was their leader and he reminded them of God's faithfulness to keep His promises:

***Joshua 23:14** And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof.*

5. Remember to acknowledge God's blessings (vs. 11-18)

Remember to be humble. Don't forget the Giver. To forget God means to forget Him in our daily thoughts as if we don't need Him. The root of forgetting God is pride. We usually depend on God during times of adversity. But we tend to forget Him in times of prosperity.

6. Remember to heed God's warnings (vs. 19-20)

***Joshua 23:15-16**¹⁵ Therefore it shall come to pass, that as all good things are come upon you, which the LORD your God promised you; so shall the LORD bring upon you all evil things, until he have destroyed you from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.¹⁶ When ye have transgressed the covenant of the LORD your God, which he commanded you, and have gone and served other gods, and bowed yourselves to them; then shall the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and ye shall perish quickly from off the good land which he hath given unto you.*

Don't serve and worship other gods, or you will be punished like the heathen nations before you. It is a true saying that "those who don't remember the past are condemned to repeat it."