

October 31, 1517

October 31, 2017

Introduction

- ▣ On October 31, 1517, an Augustine monk named Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses at the main door of the Wittenberg Castle Church
- ▣ What appeared to be a local or national issue shook the religious foundations of Europe and the world
- ▣ The world has not been the same since

Introduction

- ▣ At Inste Bible College, we are dedicating 2017 to the celebration of the study of the Word of God
- ▣ We have selected 12 biblical passages which will be studied in this series
- ▣ The emphasis on these passages will demonstrate the importance of the Word of God

Introduction

- ▣ Jewishness of the Bible
 - The Bible is a Jewish book (OT and NT)
 - ▣ Although there are different cultures and nations presented in our Bible, the most predominant story is of the people of Israel and of Yahweh their God
 - ▣ The vast majority of authors are Jewish
 - ▣ All believers, no matter their nationality, are grafted into Israel through believing in Jesus the Jewish Messiah, the King of Israel

Introduction

▣ Jewishness of the Bible

■ *Torah*

- ▣ First five books (Pentateuch) were written by Moses (*Moshe*).
- ▣ Genesis (*B'resheet*) – *In the beginning*
- ▣ Creation narratives, story of the Flood and prehistoric dispersion of the nations

Introduction

▣ Jewishness of the Bible

■ *Torah*

- ▣ Genesis 12 (Story of the Jewish People and promise of the salvation of the nations)
- ▣ Patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (*Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya'akov*)
- ▣ Genesis ends with the story of Joseph (*Yosef* in Egypt)

Introduction

- ▣ Jewishness of the Bible
 - Exodus (*Sh'mot*) – *Names*
 - ▣ God sends the ten plagues upon Egypt, resulting in the exodus through the Red Sea into the Sinai Desert, thus freeing them from slavery
 - ▣ God appears on Mount Sinai, giving Moses the Ten Words (Decalogue or Ten Commandments) and other regulations

Introduction

- ▣ Jewishness of the Bible
 - Exodus (*Sh'mot*) - Names
 - ▣ Moses is instructed by God on how to build the tabernacle
 - ▣ The tabernacle is constructed and dedicated to Yahweh
 - ▣ The system of priests (*cohanim*) is set up

Introduction

- ▣ Jewishness of the Bible
 - Leviticus (*Vayikra*) *He called*
 - ▣ Instructions concerning the sacrificial system and other aspects of life
 - ▣ The basic theme is holiness (being set apart for God)
 - Numbers (*B'midbar*) *In the desert*
 - ▣ The description of God molding a rebellious people through 40 years in the desert

Introduction

- ▣ Jewishness of the Bible
 - Deuteronomy (*D'varim*) *these are the words*
 - ▣ Moses adds additional laws in the context of reviewing the previous 40 years of history
 - ▣ He appoints Joshua (*Y'hoshua*) his successor and concludes with a cautionary poem and blessings of the 12 tribes

Scripture

- ▣ (Deuteronomy 8:1-2 ESV) 8 “The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. ² And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these

Scripture

- ▣ forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.”

Scripture

- ▣ Deuteronomy 8:1-2 (HCSB) 8 “You must carefully follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase, and may enter and take possession of the land the LORD swore to your fathers.

Scripture

- ▣ ² Remember that the LORD your God led you on the entire journey these 40 years in the wilderness, so that He might humble you and test you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep His commands.

Scripture

- ▣ Deuteronomy 8:1-2 (NLT) “Be careful to obey all the commands I am giving you today. Then you will live and multiply, and you will enter and occupy the land the LORD swore to give your ancestors.

Scripture

- ▣ ² Remember how the LORD your God led you through the wilderness for these forty years, humbling you and testing you to prove your character, and to find out whether or not you would obey his commands.

Introduction

▣ Title- Deuteronomy

- The English name of the book comes from the Greek translation of the Old Testament known as the the Septuagint (LXX)
- In 17:18 the Hebrew speaks of “a copy of this law.” However, the Septuagint uses the term *deuteronomion*, meaning “second law”, thus the name Deuteronomy

Introduction

▣ Title- Deuteronomy

- The LXX (seventy or seventy two-translators) was a translation of the Old Testament to Greek especially for the diaspora Jews who were not fluent in Hebrew
- The English Bible follows the order of the LXX

Introduction

▣ Structure of Deuteronomy

■ Speeches of Moses

- ▣ Deuteronomy is comprised of 3 speeches made by Moses to the Israelites just before their entering the Promised Land
- ▣ We can identify the three speeches of Deuteronomy by noting the similar phrases, “These are the words” (1: 1), “This is the law” (4: 44), and “These are the terms [lit. words]” (29: 1),

Introduction

▣ Structure

■ Three Speeches of Moses

- ▣ 1: 1– 4: 43 A historical review and exhortation
- ▣ 4: 44–28: 68 Exhortation to covenant loyalty
- ▣ 29: 1– 30: 20 Summary and challenge
- ▣ 31: 1-34:12 Epilogue: Final Acts of Moses,
commissioning of Joshua and
Moses' death

Introduction

- ▣ Missiological Significance
 - Deuteronomy situates Israel on the boundary of the promised land
 - It looks to what lies ahead for Israel as it moves into the future with God
 - Yahweh, the God who has been involved in Israel's past, is also involved in the movements of other nations

Introduction

- ▣ Missiological Significance
 - The mission of Israel was to be a model to the nations
 - Mission was not a matter of going but of being; to live as the people of the God Yahweh in the sight of the nations

Introduction

▣ Purpose

■ A. A new generation

- ▣ The older generation (except for Caleb and Joshua) had perished in the wilderness
- ▣ The new generation needed to hear and obey the Law
- ▣ It was important that they know God's Word afresh and realize how important it is to obey God

Introduction

▣ Purpose

■ B. A new challenge.

- ▣ Up to now, the nation's life had been unsettled; they had been pilgrims
- ▣ But now they were to enter their Promised Land and become a settled nation
- ▣ There would be battles to fight, and they needed to be prepared
- ▣ Moses wanted the nation to remember what God had done

Introduction

▣ Purpose

■ C. A new leader

- ▣ Moses was about to die, and Joshua would take over the leadership of the nation
- ▣ If they were grounded in the Word and loved the Lord, and would follow Joshua, they would win the victory

Introduction

▣ Purpose

■ D. New temptations

- ▣ A settled people in the land would face different problems than a pilgrim people in the wilderness
- ▣ Moses wanted them not only to possess the land, but also to maintain that possession
- ▣ He warned them of the dangers and gave them the way to succeed through total obedience and surrender to Yahweh and His covenant

Introduction

▣ Purpose

- They had been redeemed from Egypt, but they had not yet entered into their spiritual inheritance
- They were “on this side of Jordan” instead of in the Promised Land of blessing
- They needed to hear God’s Word again and step out by faith to claim their inheritance

Introduction

▣ Purpose

■ A deeper message

- ▣ “Love for God and God’s love for the people” is a new theme in Deuteronomy (4:37-39; 6:4-6; 7:6-16; 10:12-13; 11:1; 30:6, 16, 19-20)
- ▣ The word “heart” is also important: since sin begins in the heart (7:17ff and 8:11-20); the Word must be in their hearts (5:29; 6:6); and they must love God from the heart (10:12)

Introduction

▣ Purpose

■ A deeper message

- ▣ In other words, Moses makes it clear that blessings come when the heart is right
- ▣ In order for the people to possess and enjoy the land, their hearts had to be filled with love for God, His Word and His people

Outline

- ▣ Remember the Whole Commandment in the Past
- ▣ Remember the Whole Commandment in the Present
- ▣ Remember the Whole Commandment in the Future

Remember the Whole Commandment in the Past

- ▣ ² And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.”
(Deuteronomy 8:2 ESV)

Remember the Whole Commandment in the Past

- ▣ Remember- זָכַר (*zā ·kǎr*), remember, mention, proclaim and think about
 - To remember was a command that God's people not forget Yahweh's involvement during the past 40 years
 - They were to look into the past to see that the Lord was faithful in keeping His promise to the people

Remember the Whole Commandment in the Past

- ▣ Remember- זָכַר (*zā ·kǎr*), remember, mention, proclaim and think about
 - The new generation was getting ready to enter the Promised Land
 - Their remembering the past was tied to God's commands
 - The Torah had guided the people during their time in the desert
 - The whole Law was to be their guiding light

Remember the Whole Commandment in the Past

- ▣ Commandment- מִצְוָה (*miṣṣā(h)*),
order, stipulation, teaching,
prohibition, precept and commission
 - The commandments were not mere suggestions but rather the moral backbone for the people
 - The Law was God's instructions

Remember the Whole Commandment in the Past

- ▣ The purpose of the commandments was to prepare the people to possess the Promised Land
 - Yahweh humbled and tested the people to see if they were obedient to Him
 - The 40 years was a time of preparation and training

Remember the Whole Commandment in the Present

- ▣ The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply (Deuteronomy 8:1a-c)
 - If Israel would follow and obey the commandments, they would live
 - The commandments were life and abundance of life

Remember the Whole Commandment in the Future

- ▣ And go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers (Deuteronomy 8:1d-e)
 - This was the challenge of the future
 - The people were to fulfill their destiny and that of the previous generations
 - The promise to Abraham (Gen 12:1-3) was soon to be accomplished

Remember the Whole Commandment in the Future

- ▣ And go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers (Deuteronomy 8:1d-e)
 - The commandments were to be Israel's protection and victory over the enemy nations across the Jordan
 - The survival and future of Israel was rooted in the Law

Outline

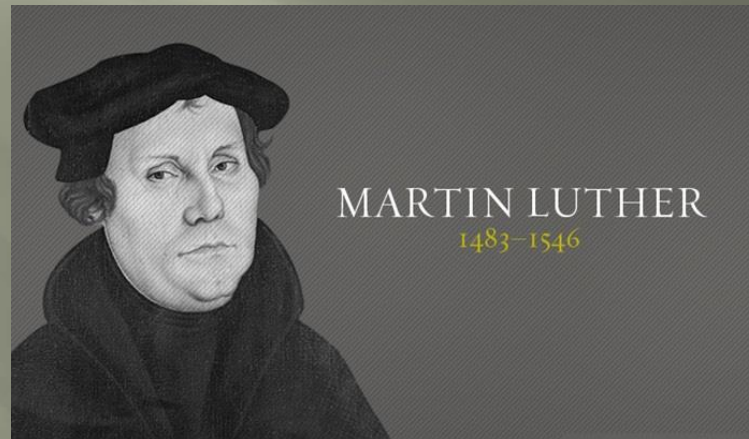
- ▣ Remember the Whole Commandment in the Past
- ▣ Remember the Whole Commandment in the Present
- ▣ Remember the Whole Commandment in the Future

Conclusion

- ▣ Israel was to possess its inheritance and God's promises through obeying God's commandments
- ▣ Tragically, Israel did not obey the WHOLE command
- ▣ God's people did not enter into the fullness of God's rest (Hebrews 4:1-2)

Conclusion

- ▣ The Lord continues to test His people in order to see what is in their hearts
- ▣ Scripture guides and reveals all that is in the human heart
- ▣ God's commands are the roadmap to victory and abundant life



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