

## Deuteronomy 6

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Now this is the commandment--the statutes and the ordinances--that YHWH your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, so that you and your children and your children's children, may fear YHWH your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as YHWH, the God of your ancestors, has promised you. **Hear, O Israel: YHWH is our God, YHWH alone. You shall love YHWH your God with all your heart, and with all your life, and with all your might.** Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. When YHWH your God has brought you into the land that he swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you--a land with fine, large cities that you did not build, houses filled with all sorts of goods that you did not fill, hewn cisterns that you did not hew, vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant--and when you have eaten your fill, take care that you do not forget YHWH, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. **YHWH your God you shall fear; him you shall serve, and by his name alone you shall swear.** Do not follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who are all around you, because YHWH your God, who is present with you, is a jealous God. The anger of YHWH your God would be kindled against you and he would destroy you from the face of the earth. **Do not put YHWH your God to the test,** as you tested him at Massah. You must diligently keep the commandments of YHWH your God, and his decrees, and his statutes that he has commanded you. Do what is right and good in the sight of YHWH, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may go in and occupy the good land that YHWH swore to your ancestors to give you, thrusting out all your enemies from before you, as YHWH has promised. When your children ask you in time to come, "What is the meaning of the decrees and the statutes and the ordinances that YHWH our God has commanded you?" then you shall say to your children, "We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt, but YHWH brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. YHWH displayed before our eyes great and awesome signs and wonders against Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his household. He brought us out from there in order to bring us in, to give us the land that he promised on oath to our ancestors. Then YHWH commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear YHWH our God, for our lasting good, so as to keep us alive, as is now the case. If we diligently observe this entire commandment before YHWH our God, as he has commanded us, we will be in the right."

## Deuteronomy 7

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**When YHWH your God brings you into the land that you are about to enter and occupy, and he clears away many nations before you--the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations mightier and more numerous than you-- and when YHWH your God gives them over to you and you defeat them, then **you must utterly destroy them. Make no covenant with them and show them no mercy. Do not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, for that would turn away your children from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of YHWH would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly. But this is how you must deal with them: break down their altars, smash their pillars, hew down their sacred poles, and burn their idols with fire.****

For you are a people holy to YHWH your God; YHWH your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on earth to be his people, his treasured possession. It was not because you were more numerous than any other people that YHWH set his heart on you and chose you--for you were the fewest of all peoples. It was because YHWH loved you and kept the oath that he swore to your ancestors, that YHWH has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that YHWH your God is God, the faithful God who maintains covenant loyalty with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, and who repays in their own person those who reject him. He does not delay but repays in their own person those who reject him. Therefore, observe diligently the commandment--the statutes, and the ordinances--that I am commanding you today. If you heed these ordinances, by diligently observing them, YHWH your God will maintain with you the covenant loyalty that he swore to your ancestors; he will love you, bless you, and multiply you; he will bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the issue of your flock, in the land that he swore to your ancestors to give you. You shall be the most blessed of peoples, with neither sterility nor barrenness among you or your livestock. YHWH will turn away from you every illness; all the dread diseases of Egypt that you experienced, he will not inflict on you, but he will lay them on all who hate you. You shall devour all the peoples that YHWH your God is giving over to you, showing them no pity; you shall not serve their gods, for that would be a snare to you. If you say to yourself, "These nations are more numerous than I; how can I dispossess them?" do not be afraid of them. Just remember what YHWH your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt, the great trials that your eyes saw, the signs and wonders, the mighty hand and the outstretched arm by which YHWH your God brought you out. YHWH your God will do the same to all the peoples of whom you are afraid. Moreover, YHWH your God will send the pestilence against them, until even the survivors and the fugitives are destroyed. Have no dread of them, for YHWH your God, who is present with you, is a great and awesome God. YHWH your God will clear away these nations before you little by little; you will not be able to

make a quick end of them, otherwise the wild animals would become too numerous for you. But YHWH your God will give them over to you, and throw them into great panic, until they are destroyed. He will hand their kings over to you and you shall blot out their name from under heaven; no one will be able to stand against you, until you have destroyed them. The images of their gods you shall burn with fire. Do not covet the silver or the gold that is on them and take it for yourself, because you could be ensnared by it; for it is abhorrent to YHWH your God. Do not bring an abhorrent thing into your house, or you will be set apart for destruction like it. You must utterly detest and abhor it, for it is set apart for destruction.

## Deuteronomy 8

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**This entire commandment that I command you today you must diligently observe, so that you may live and increase,** and go in and occupy the land that YHWH promised on oath to your ancestors. Remember the long way that YHWH your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments. **He humbled you by letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of YHWH.** The clothes on your back did not wear out and your feet did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that as a parent disciplines a child so YHWH your God disciplines you. Therefore keep the commandments of YHWH your God, by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For YHWH your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless YHWH your God for the good land that he has given you. Take care that you do not forget YHWH your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting YHWH your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. **Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." But remember YHWH your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today. If you do forget YHWH your God and follow other gods to serve and worship them, I solemnly**

**warn you today that you shall surely perish. Like the nations that YHWH is destroying before you, so shall you perish, because you would not obey the voice of YHWH your God.**