



**TEXT:**

**Deuteronomy 32:45-47:** Moses Charges Israel

***45 And Moses made an end of speaking all the words to all Israel:***

***46 And he said unto them, Set your hearts unto all the words which I testify among you this day, which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this Law.***

***47 For it is not a vain thing for you; because it is your life: and through this thing ye shall prolong your days in the land, whither ye go over Jordan to possess it.***

You may be familiar with the once-popular television program entitled “*This is Your Life*” which had dramatized pictorial biographies of favorite citizens. It was evident that the person being featured must have lived long enough to possess a life story.

The one who wrote the above Scriptures 4000 years ago was no stranger to this text. Moses lived a life few in history could ever rival. Only One — The Lord Jesus Christ — has excelled him. His exit from this life was more dramatic than his birth. His respect for God’s Word and his closeness to God, along with his absolute faith, was strikingly wonderful. He was loved of God, and knew Him face to face as no other earthly man.

***Deuteronomy 34:10: And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,***

Before we drop the curtain on his spectacular career, Moses — in addressing the Children of Israel — tells about his great respect for God’s Word, and how His commands provide daily direction for life. This is the Gettysburg address of the Old Testament. In it Moses:

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Old Testament.**

- ***rehearses God’s righteous acts;***
- ***reminds them of their failures;***
- ***warns of dangers if they persist in doing wrong; and***

- *instructs them as to what God expects them to observe.*

He closes his message by saying:

**Deuteronomy 32:46-47a:**

**<sup>46</sup> And he [Moses] said unto them, Set your hearts unto all the words which I testify among you this day, which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the Words of this Law.**

**<sup>47a</sup> For it is not a vain thing for you; because IT IS YOUR LIFE:**

Some laws Moses received were ceremonial, some were judicial, and others were moral. For example, the Ten Commandments concern us today just as much as they did then. They are imperatives and commands, not requests. ***Thou Shalt . . . Thou Shalt Not.***

They are imperatives and commands, not requests.

We are not lawless beings left to live at random. Our Creator has not given us a Law, and then left it optional with us to obey or not. Make no mistake about that. It is a life and death matter. Murder, profanity, immorality, theft — all history shows that families, nations, and individuals rise or fall by obedience or disobedience to this moral Law. It is fixed with a blessing or a curse. It has no loopholes. There are certain requirements to observe in order to receive the proper benefits, just like an insurance policy. It binds us to love God with all our being. This Law is universal — to love God and our neighbor. There are no omissions, and no nationalities are exempted.

***The Ten Commandments haven't been rescinded.***

God's Law is perpetual. The Ten Commandments haven't been rescinded, amended, or tampered with. They do not read: "*Thou shalt not steal very much, Thou shalt not tell lies that are whoppers, just little white ones only.*"

God has drawn the lines of our moral conduct as to what is right or wrong. He told the nation, thru Moses, "***Set your hearts to it.***" You can count on God's Laws. It is like saying, "*set your watch by it and you will be on time*". It is perfectly reliable.

Moses emphasized the need of family observance of His laws which is one of the biggest needs today.

**Deuteronomy 32:46b: Ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the Words of this Law.**

Moses didn't say "*Beg, coax, request*", he said "*Command!*" God will back the parent who adopts that attitude and puts some old-fashioned Bible discipline into the home.

That means, Dad, that you will have to do some Bible reading and put some study into your preparation before drilling the truth home to the children at the family altar so you can explain to them why something is right or wrong.



We have forgotten what Jesus said in:

**Matthew 5:19-20:**

***19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least Commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.***

***20 For I say unto you that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and the Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.***

God makes a guarantee of results if we work in His way. Parents are responsible before God to command their children, just as the U.S. Army is responsible to the government for commands to the troops.

This is not a meaningless Sunday morning ritual. This is why taking God's Name in vain is sin and will cost you your soul. Can you run God's Name down in filth, and expect to go unpunished? Never! Snicker if you will, but you are going to pay for it, perishing soul, and you will know it long before death.



***1 Corinthians 1:18: For the preaching of the Cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.***

A rotten heart will utter the same kind of talk. The disappointment of a wasted life will come home to you with a thud. We witness this in the life of Balaam — a man who appeared spiritual on the outside, but on the inside was corrupt.

## **Balaam - Numbers 25**

When Balak was king of the Moabites, the Israelites had pitched their tents in the plains of Moab after just having defeated the Amorites who had refused to give them safe passage through their land. Instead, they went out into the wilderness to fight against them and were defeated. Having heard how the Israelites defeated the Amorites, King Balak was sore afraid. He therefore sent messengers to Balaam, a sorcerer, to bring him back to Moab



to use his powers to curse the Israelites so that he might prevail against them and drive them out of his land.



At first, Balaam appears to be a man of spiritual integrity, seeking the Lord Who clearly tells him he is not to curse those whom God has blessed. King Balak sends more distinguished princes to him offering greater monetary rewards. Each time Balaam seeks the Lord and receives the same message, appearing to be a spiritually righteous man in his resolve to speak only the words of the Lord:

**Numbers 24:10-13:**

**10 And Balak's anger was kindled against Balaam, and he smote his hands together: and Balak said unto Balaam, I called thee to curse mine enemies, and, behold, thou hast altogether blessed them these three times.**

**11 Therefore now flee thou to thy place: I thought to promote thee unto great honour; but, lo, the LORD hath kept thee back from honour.**

**12 And Balaam said unto Balak, Spake I not also to thy messengers which thou sentest unto me, saying,**

**13 If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the commandment of the LORD, to do either good or bad of mine own mind; but what the LORD saith, that will I speak?**



Balaam started out this way, refusing to go beyond the Word to say less or more than what he heard from the Lord. But — as we learn later in **Numbers 31:16** and **Revelation 2:14** — he eventually compromised and turned because he thought the pay was better from the devil's crowd.



**Revelation 2:14: But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the Children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.**

**Numbers 31:14-17:**

**14 And Moses was wroth with the officers of the host, with the captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, which came from the battle.**

**15 And Moses said unto them, Have ye saved all the women alive?**

**16 Behold, these caused the Children of Israel, through the counsel**

***of Balaam, to commit trespass against the LORD in the matter of Peor, and there was a plague among the congregation of the LORD. 17 Now therefore kill every male among the little ones, and kill every woman that hath known man by lying with him.***

So we learn that ultimately Balaam had counseled King Balak to entice the Israelites to engage in sexual immorality with the women of Moab and in idolatry, causing God's anger and a deadly plague to come upon them.

Yes, at one time Balaam cried out when seeing the Children of Israel:

***Numbers 23:10b: Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my latter end be like his!***

However, Balaam eventually returned to Moab and died when the armies of Israel invaded:

***Joshua 13:22: Balaam also the son of Beor, the soothsayer, did the Children of Israel slay with the sword among them that were slain by them.***

### **This is your Life.**

In America, we remove the resemblance of Christ from our national observance of Christmas and make it Xmas. Even Christmas stamps picture a bunch of trees or poinsettias. We congratulate ourselves on the separation of church and state, and the advancement of our intelligence, but this is the worst country for divorce, drunkenness, and juvenile delinquency. It's also among the worst in suicides, rapes, and murder.



***“Honor thy father and mother, that thy days may be long....***

***Deuteronomy 5:16: Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.***

**This is your life.** God's guarantee of a long life is still valid today.

***Proverbs 10:27: The fear of the LORD prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.***

Sin's indulgence cuts one's life expectancy.

**Psalms 34:12-14:**

**12 What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good?**

**13 Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.**

**14 Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.**

What will you gain for refusing these good words? Surely time is killing you while you are killing time pursuing foolish passions. Will there be any cheering when you have concluded your little performance down here and must leave? When you have acted your part on life's stage, will your friends try to bring you back? God gave you time to write success or failure. You write the record. **This is your life.**

Surely time is killing you while you are killing time pursuing foolish passions.

Many treat God, Church, and the Word with contempt. He will deny their request for water to cool their tongues unless they repent before the curtain closes.

**Luke 16:24: And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.**

It takes more than acknowledging you are a Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, or Holiness to get you into Heaven. Salvation requires a public commitment to Christ Jesus in repentance, and a confession of faith in His shed Blood for your sin on the Cross at Calvary. You must declare yourself as having received Him as your Saviour. This is the price tag for salvation. Along with it will come persecution and open hostility from sinners to your testimony.

Confession means more than repeating a creed. Jesus makes no room for cowards in His Kingdom. There are no exceptions. No priest, minister, or authority can admit you into Heaven. The full and sole authority lies with One Priest Who is described in Hebrews as our High Priest — Jesus. There is no appeal from His decision.

If you are ashamed to confess Him before men, then you are not saved. You may hope you are, but Jesus will deny you on that day.

**Matthew 10:33: But whosoever shall deny Me before men, him will I also deny before My Father Who is in Heaven.**

Your school teacher may regard Jesus as a great personality in history. Regardless of your grade, you must insist that Jesus is God Incarnate in the flesh, the Redeemer of the world, and your Saviour. It is not easy to take a positive stand for Christ unless you have a positive experience with Him in salvation.

## This is your life.

When I made my confession that I got saved, it set off a smirky grin and laughter. If I had said I had joined a church or enrolled in Sunday School, it would have been quite different. My confession meant I had accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour, that I was a wicked sinner, and that I was lost and Hell bound. Yes, salvation is more than hand shaking and signing a card. You have to confess more than the devils do.

***James 2:19: Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.***

The kind of confession I am talking about is an open declaration that you belong to Christ, and that your life is His — it is changed. They will test your testimony, too.

We admit and confess:

***Jeremiah 17:9: The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?***

Public confession means we promote Christ's cause and want to share it in spreading the Gospel. Your light will shine thru the mud they throw. Paul's did.

***Acts 20:24: But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the Gospel of the Grace of God.***

What will this get you and me? It will get us God's favor. Nothing so pleases and satisfies His heart as your public confession of Faith in His Son.

God's heart was broken on Calvary as Jesus paid for our sins at Golgotha. A day is coming when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ. He is the sole Arbitrator:

Nothing so pleases and satisfies His heart as your public ***confession of Faith in His Son.***

***Romans 2:6: Who [God] will render to every man according to his deeds.***

***Romans 2:16: In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to My Gospel.***

That is why every evangelist and preacher asks you to come forward to openly confess Christ. He will bring testimony at the Judgment as to your faithfulness or unfaithfulness. He alone can grant you an eternal pass into the land where the wicked cease from troubling, and where the weary can be at rest. There is coming a day of full accounting.

***Acts 17:31: Because He [Father God] hath appointed a day, in the which He will Judge the world in Righteousness by that Man [Jesus, His Son] Whom He [Father God] hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him [Jesus] from the dead.***

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