

# Deuteronomy: God's Covenant People

[#14] *Justice & Mercy makes it Messy* – Deuteronomy 4:25–31

## Sermon Outline – October 15, 2017

### Children's Sermon: Who do You Serve?

A little over 2000 years ago a man named Jesus... a mountain in Galilee.

#### **Matthew 28:17–18**

And when they saw him they *worshipped him*, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth *has* been given to me.

#### **Mark 4:19** (NIV84)

...but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke **the word**, making it unfruitful.

What is worship? How do we do this at church?

How can you worship Jesus at home?

### Who are You Here to Worship?

#### **Luke 21:34–36**

<sup>34</sup> “But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and *cares of this life*, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup> For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and *to stand before the Son of Man.*”

Notes:

#### **Moses: Keep the Covenant! (4:1–40)**

Find out what God said, then trust it & do it!

Yahweh was Heard not Seen: True Worship vs. Idolatry (12–24)

#### **True Worship Always Matters Most**

Yahweh will be Faithful to the Covenant: Future Curse & Blessing (4:25–31)

<sup>25</sup> “*When you father children* and children's children, and have grown old in the land...

#### **Just Judgment...**

...if [and] *you act corruptly* by [and] making a carved image in the form of anything, and *by* doing what is evil in the sight of the Lord your God, so as to provoke him to anger, <sup>26</sup> I call heaven and earth to witness against you

today (cf. 30:19; 31:28; 32:1), that you will soon utterly perish from the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess. You will **not** live long in it, but will be utterly destroyed.<sup>27</sup> And **the Lord** will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations where the Lord will drive you.<sup>28</sup> **And there you will serve gods** of wood and stone, the work of human hands, that neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.

### **Promised Mercy...**

<sup>29</sup> But from there you will seek the Lord your God and you will find him, **if [when] you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul.**<sup>30</sup> ~~When~~ [In regard to] you[r] ~~are in~~ tribulation, and [when] all these things come upon you in the **latter days**, you will return to the Lord your God **and obey his voice.**<sup>31</sup> **For the Lord your God is a merciful God.** He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them.

Israel's sin + God's mercy = Messy, Complicated Life

### **Today's Clear Biblical Bullet...**

A return to **true worship** (i.e. living a life in submission to Yahweh) is central to God's long term rescue plan.



## **Jesus Returns Israel to True Worship**

### **He is Obedient For Us...**

**Hebrews 10:5, 7** (cf. John 6:38)

<sup>5</sup> Consequently, *when Christ came into the world*, he said...<sup>7</sup> ..., 'Behold, **I have come to do your will**, O God, *as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.*' "

### **He Creates Obedience In Us...**

**Acts 5:29–32**

<sup>29</sup> But Peter and the apostles answered, "**We must obey God** rather than men."<sup>30</sup> The God of our fathers raised **Jesus**, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree.<sup>31</sup> God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.<sup>32</sup> And

we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those *who obey him.*”

**Ephesians 2:12–13** [writing to gentile Christians]

...remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the *commonwealth of Israel* and strangers to *the covenants of promise*, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> *But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near* by the blood of Christ. (cf. Rom. 11:17–24; Root, broken/grafted branches)

*...Fired at our Life & Heart*

Jesus is equipping us to joyfully live our lives in submission to him.



### Becoming True Worshipers in Christ

**Matthew 28:17–20** (cf. John 4:23–24 – True worshipers)

<sup>17</sup> And when they saw him they *worshipped him*, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> *teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you*. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Image Bearers are Disciples & Make Disciples

Submitting to King Jesus with Gospel Power Requires:

✓ Learning/Experiencing the Love of Jesus

**Mark 1:15** (HCSB; cf. Acts 11:18)

“The time is fulfilled, and **the kingdom of God** has come near. *Repent* and *believe* in the good news!”

✓ Learning to obey everything Jesus commanded

✓ Teaching others to be Christ’s disciples

✓ Teaching others to obey everything Jesus commanded

Being Like Jesus Requires a Love that is Messy

**Relationships: A Mess Worth Making**

by Timothy S. Lane & Paul David Tripp

## Ed Welch

[commenting on intervening to help people with addictions]

“It certainly would be easier to sit on the sidelines and say nothing when we suspect that someone has a problem with alcohol, drugs, or sex. Anger, too, would be easy. We’d just get our frustrations off our chest and move on. **Love, however, makes life both messy and blessed.**” [bold mine] <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Welch, Edward T.. Addictions: A Banquet in the Grave (p. 115). New Growth Press. Kindle Edition.