

# Deuteronomy: God's Covenant People

[#29] *Only God's Gracious Love in Jesus Saves* – Deuteronomy 9-10

## Sermon Outline – February 18, 2018

### Children's Sermon: The Problem of Mercy & Grace

#### The Unmerciful Servant - Matthew 18:23–35

- 10,000 Talents (A *talent* was a monetary unit worth about twenty years' wages for a laborer<sup>1</sup>)
- 100 Denarii (A *denarius* was a day's wage for a laborer<sup>1</sup>)

#### Mercy & Grace: Everybody Needs it, Nobody Deserves it!

#### Exposition of the First Commandment (Dt. 6–11)

Notes:

**There is One God. Everything Comes from Him. Nothing Comes from You. Trust & Obey Him!**

#### Israel Doesn't Deserve God's Grace... (9-10)

God Loves Israel in Spite their Stubborn Rebellion

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

God's choice to love Israel in spite of their stubborn disobedience is a picture of Gospel Grace but falls short.



#### God Gives Israel the Promised Land...

<sup>9:4</sup> “**Do not say in your heart**, after the LORD your God has thrust them out before you, **‘It is because of my righteousness that the LORD has brought me in to possess this land,’** (again v. 5, 6)

- The Nations are Wicked (v. 4, 5)
- God's Faithfulness: “Remember... Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob” (v. 5)
- God's Choice to Love

<sup>10:14</sup> Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. <sup>15</sup> **Yet the LORD set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day.**

#### Stiff-Necked & Uncircumcised Heart (9:7-24)

<sup>16</sup> ...**You had made yourselves a golden calf.** You had **turned aside quickly** from the way...

<sup>1</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#). (2016). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

<sup>22</sup> “**At Taberah also** (Num. 11:1–3), and **at Massah** (Ex. 17:7) and at **Kibroth-hattaavah** (Num. 11:4–34) you provoked the LORD to wrath. <sup>23</sup> And when the LORD sent you from **Kadesh-barnea**, saying, ‘Go up and take possession of the land that I have given you... (Cf. Num. 14:1–4). <sup>24</sup> **You have been rebellious against the LORD** from the day that I knew you.

How did God Protect Israel (Cf. Ps. 106:21–23)

<sup>9</sup> When I went up the mountain to receive the tablets of stone, the tablets of the covenant that the LORD made with you, I remained on the mountain forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water. <sup>10</sup> And the LORD gave me the two tablets of stone written with the finger of God... [Golden Calf]

<sup>17</sup> So I took hold of the two tablets and threw them out of my two hands and broke them before your eyes. <sup>18</sup> Then I lay prostrate before the LORD as before, forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water, because of all the sin that you had committed, in doing what was evil in the sight of the LORD to provoke him to anger. ... [Aaron]

<sup>25</sup> “So I lay prostrate before the LORD for these forty days and forty nights, because the LORD had said he would destroy you.”

- Moses Prayed for Israel (v. 26-29)
  1. God’s Faithfulness: “Remember... Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob”
  2. Your Glory/Name (Egypt...Unable or Hatred)
  3. They are Yours
- <sup>29</sup> For they are your people and your heritage, whom you brought out by your great power and by your outstretched arm.<sup>7</sup>
  - God Listens to the Mediator He Provided (v. 10:1-10)

<sup>10:1</sup> “At that time the LORD said to me, ‘**Cut for yourself two tablets of stone like the first**, and come up to me on the mountain...’

<sup>10</sup> “I myself stayed on the mountain, as at the first time, **forty days and forty nights, and the LORD listened to me that time also.** The LORD was unwilling to destroy you. <sup>11</sup> And the LORD said to me, ‘Arise, go on your journey at the head of the people, so that **they may go in and possess the land**, which I swore to their fathers to give them.’”

A Better Covenant is Needed (repentance, faith & obedience)

<sup>12</sup> “**And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but **to fear the LORD** your God, to walk in all his ways, **to love him**, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, <sup>13</sup> and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good?**

<sup>14</sup> Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven... <sup>15</sup> ***Yet the LORD set his heart in love on [you].***

<sup>16</sup> ***Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn*** (stiff-necked). <sup>17</sup> For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. <sup>18</sup> He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing.

<sup>19</sup> ***Love the sojourner***, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. <sup>20</sup> ***You shall fear*** the LORD your God. ***You shall serve*** him and ***hold fast*** to him, and by his name you shall ***swear***.

<sup>21</sup> **He is your praise. He is your God**, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen. <sup>22</sup> Your fathers went down to Egypt seventy persons, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars of heaven.

## God's Love In Christ, Overcomes Our Stubborn Rebellion! (True Grace)

*...Fired at our Life & Heart*

Only God's merciful, gracious, faithful love **in Jesus** has the power to bring us to repentance, faith & love.



### Colossians 2:11–13

<sup>11</sup> In him also you ***were circumcised*** with a circumcision ***made without hands***, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup> having ***been buried*** with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith ***in the powerful working of God***, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup> And you, who were dead in ***your trespasses*** and ***the uncircumcision of your flesh***, ***God made alive*** together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses...

## What does a Circumcised Heart Look Like?

1. True Christians gratefully respond to God's love with a **God-reliant, careful, wholehearted love** of God and neighbor. (Cf. Ps. 119)
2. True Christians remember that they deserve hell. (Cf. Eph. 2:1-3)
3. Christians are preoccupied with Jesus (the merciful, gracious & faithful nature of God's love in Him).

## A Word for the Non-Christians:

1. Jesus died for his enemies. (Cf. Rom. 5:6-8) This is good news for you!
2. Cry out for mercy & power to turn back to God.
3. Christianity is not about how good you have to be, it is about how God teaches us to turn, trust & live for Jesus.  
(A Christian is marked not so much by how well they are living, but rather, who they are living for)