

Deuteronomy

The One and Only Study 7 – Response

Introduction

Deuteronomy 10:12-11:32 brings the first section of the book to a close and so sets the scene for the more detailed list of “decrees and laws” which Moses gave to all Israel, decrees and laws which they must “be careful to follow in the land the LORD, the God of the fathers, has given to them to possess” (12:1).

As may be expected from such a concluding section, the passage is full of familiar ideas and themes. But it is important to understand that the passage is no mere repetition for repetition’s sake. One of the key words within the book of Deuteronomy is ‘remember’, a word designed to motivate Israel to respond to the LORD in the right way in the light of all that He had done for them in the past and all that He has promised to do for them in the future. What Deuteronomy 10:12 – 11:32 does, is to spell out precisely what that response should look like in principle, before any specific commands and laws are given. At the heart of this principled response are two important verbs, namely *fear* (10:12; 10:20) and *love* (10:12; 11:1; 11:13; 11:22). These words act as a reminder to Israel and to us that the right response to the LORD who saves is a response from the heart, not a mere external or begrudging obedience.

Read Deuteronomy 10:12-11:32

Investigate

1. What five things did the LORD ask of Israel according to Deuteronomy 10:12-13?

6. What were they to remember with respect to the land they were going in to possess?

7. What was their response to be to all that the LORD had done for them and all that the LORD had promised them? (see especially 11:8; 11:13; 11:18-20)

8. What were the Israelites to avoid at all costs?

9. What two words summed up the choices which Israel faced in the land?



Think

1. Summarise the teaching of this passage in your own words. What do you think the key ideas are?

Apply



In what way has this passage informed or challenged your thinking?



In what way has this passage spoken to your heart?



What needs to change in your daily life as a result of this study?