



OHBC MEMORY VERSE- WEEK #5

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE: Deuteronomy 6:5

“And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.”

Why Deuteronomy 6:5?

As we will discuss in greater detail when we come into the Book of Deuteronomy in our daily readings, the word “deuteronomy” is actually a Greek word which means “second law.”

In this Book, Moses, under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost (II Peter 1:21; II Tim. 3:16), restates God's Law to the Nation of Israel. The Book doesn't actually present a new Law, but a new motive for obeying the Law. That new motive is love.

Whereas in the other Books of the Law (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers) God certainly communicates by His actions His love for His people and His desire to be loved by His people, nowhere is it stated and/or emphasized like it is in the Book of Deuteronomy (Deut. 4:37; 6:4-6; 7:6-13; 10:12; 11:1; 30:6,16,20).

This Book teaches us that God doesn't want our lives to be governed by RULES but a RELATIONSHIP. It teaches us that God doesn't want our obedience born out of DUTY but DESIRE. IT teaches us that God doesn't want the basis of our relationship with Him to be LAW but LOVE! A love that flows out of every part of our being... ALL of our HEART, ALL of our SOUL, and ALL of our MIGHT.

That's how God loves us. That's how God wants to be loved by us.

JANUARY'S MEMORY VERSES

GENESIS 2:3

“And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.”

EXODUS 12:13

“And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.”

LEVITICUS 11:45

“For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.”

NUMBERS 14:18

“The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation.”

DEUTERONOMY 6:5

“And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.”

DAY 21

TODAY'S READING: EXODUS 25-28

OVERVIEW:

God details His plans for the tabernacle; God details His plans for the High Priest's coverings.

HIGHLIGHTS & INSIGHTS:

Here the Divine Architect (Designer and Builder of the entire universe) takes on His second building project through man. His first, the Ark, was a vessel that carried man through the flood. The second, a tabernacle, is a way for God to be carried by man through the desert. God's second building project is a tent, but in actuality, it is far, far more.

The blueprint is SIMPLE – made from materials available to the children of Israel in the desert – gold, silver and brass (unintentional gifts from the Egyptians), fine linen, animal skins, wood, oil, incense and precious stones. The blueprint is SYMBOLIC – absolutely every detail is a portrait of God's character, how He desires to dwell with us, and how we can approach Him.

The tabernacle is to be PRECIOUS. God's art demands the very best workmanship available to the Israelites – sewing, carving, goldsmithing, baking, dying. The tabernacle is to be PORTABLE. God has His people on the move and His design allows the Israelites to keep Him at the center of their lives while they move on to the Promised Land.

Entire books have been written about the numerous pictures drawn by God in this design. Like any great art, the more you look, the more you see.

Historically, God designed this tabernacle because He wanted to dwell and commune with His people (Ex. 25:8, 22). Practically, God designed the record of it for all history to know how we can dwell in Him (I John 4:12-13; Hebrews 9:1-14).

CHRIST IS REVEALED:

In the ARK OF THE COVENANT – wood overlaid by pure gold (wood representing His humanity and gold representing His deity – Ex. 25:10-11 (Phil. 2:6-8).

In the MERCY SEAT – Ex. 25:17 (Rom. 3:24-25 – Note that the word "propitiation" in Rom. 3:25 is translated "mercy seat" in Heb. 9:5)

In the TABLE OF SHEWBREAD – Ex. 25:23-30 (Jesus is the Bread of Life: John 6:33, 35, 48, 51).

In the CANDLESTICK – Ex. 25:31 (Jesus is the Light: John 1:4-9; 8:12; 9:5; 12:35-36, 46)

In the VEIL – Ex. 26:30-37 (Representing the body of Christ which was torn to bring us to God: Mark 15:38; Hebrews 10:20)

Through the HIGH PRIEST and all of his CLOTHING – Ex. 28:1-43 (Jesus is our High Priest: Heb. 2:17; 3:1)

DAY 22

TODAY'S READING: EXODUS 29-32

OVERVIEW:

God gives instruction on the consecration of the priests; God explains how the tabernacle is to operate; God appoints specific men to oversee the building of the tabernacle; God emphasizes the Sabbath day; Israel sins against God; Moses intercedes for Israel.

HIGHLIGHTS & INSIGHTS:

For 40 days (since the end of Ex. 24) Moses has been back on Mount Sinai receiving explicit direction from God. Israel had just faithfully promised, "All the words which the Lord hath said will we do." (Ex. 24:3) What could be better? God's presence was apparent; God was actively working with Israel; Moses was at that very moment on the mount hearing from God. BUT – (Gen. 4:7) "Sin lieth at the door." Aaron, (the High Priest about whom God was giving detailed instructions on how he would picture our High Priest, the Lord Jesus Christ) bows to the pressures of the people, builds a false god and leads Israel in the worship of it; dancing about it naked and praising it for delivering them from Egypt. How could they be so weak? Sound like anybody you know? AND – Then comes the lame cover up (Ex. 32:24), where when confronted with his sin, Aaron explains that he simply threw the gold into the fire and out popped this golden calf! That "miracle" having taken place, the only natural thing was to then to set it in front of the people, so they could dance around it and party the day away in sensual lust.

Sadly, the wonderful things that God had planned for His people were being permanently polluted by them as He spoke (Acts 7:41). While God is painting a beautiful picture of how His people could exemplify His holiness and mercy, Israel is painting the dreadful portrait of how we so often react to His love (I Corinthians 10:1-10).

Make special note that this great sin of Israel is also used in Steven's sermon in Acts 7:41 to illustrate how we so blatantly reject God's perfect plan.

CHRIST IS REVEALED:

Through God's plan for Aaron the HIGH PRIEST. Ex.29 (Hebrews 7:26 - 8:1)

Through the ONCE-A-YEAR SACRIFICE FOR ATONEMENT. Ex. 30:10 (Rom. 6:10, Hebrews 7:27, 9:7, 9:12, 10:10)

DAY 23

TODAY'S READING: EXODUS 33-36

OVERVIEW:

God commands the people to go to Canaan; Moses asks God to reestablish His presence with Israel; God rewrites the tables of stone that Moses had broken; God reaffirms His special relationship with Israel; Moses reveals the tabernacle plans and the people respond obediently.

HIGHLIGHTS & INSIGHTS:

What is God to do with a "stiffnecked" people? (Ex. 32:9, 33:3, 5, 34:9) He delivers them, He protects them, He provides for them, but still they are dead set on living like the world. God is wroth, considering consuming them (Ex. 32:10, 33:3, 5) and building His people up again through Moses, but Moses begs God for His presence once more. This brush with extinction, Moses prays, will be a wake-up call to God's people. God offers to send His Angel to lead them, but Moses pleads for the actual personal presence of God (Ex. 32:15). The "insight" here is as simple as a look in the mirror (II Chron. 30:8, Acts 7:51).

With God's presence restored, the admonitions from God are unchanged, "For thou shalt worship no other god: for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God" (Ex. 34:14). Paul was jealous in this same way in II Corinthians 11:2.

God's plan for the tabernacle, delivered to the children of Israel in chapter 35, is basically a repeat of chapters 25 – 31 with one incredible difference. While God's plan was so very specific (it almost sounds stifling!), the execution of the plan employs the willing and wise-hearted participation of God's people. Here they apply their skill, their cunning and their curious works (Ex. 35:32, 33, 35). The work of God drew on all their talents and, filled with God's wisdom, they were enthused to do it; so much so that they almost went overboard. (Ex. 36:7).

CHRIST IS REVEALED:

In the TABERNACLE – Ex. 35 (Heb. 9:1-14).

The SINGLE DOOR into the tabernacle – Ex. 35:15 (John 10: 1, 2, 7, 9).

The HOLY OF HOLIES into which only the High Priest could enter – Ex. 35:19 (Hebrews 9:12).

DAY 24

TODAY'S READING: EXODUS 37-40

OVERVIEW:

The tabernacle is completed and an inventory is taken; God commands Moses to set up the tabernacle; God's presence fills the tabernacle.

HIGHLIGHTS & INSIGHTS:

In chapters 37 and 38, God prompts Moses to once again list and describe the seven pieces of furniture to be placed in the tabernacle. 1) The Brazen Altar 2) The Brazen Laver 3) The Table of Shewbread 4) The Candlestick 5) The Altar of Incense 6) The Ark 7) The Mercy Seat.

John says of the Lord Jesus Christ, "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt (literally, "tabernacled") among us." It is amazing to observe the order of the furniture found in the tabernacle, and the order of the Gospel of John. It's as if the Holy Spirit were leading us, in the same exact order as the furniture was to be placed in the tabernacle, to the incredible spiritual realities pictured by the furniture in the tabernacle.

He begins by leading us to the Brazen Altar of Sacrifice, as twice in John chapter one He urges us to "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29,46).

We are then taken to the Laver in John 3:5 where the Spirit of God records, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

Moving further into the Gospel of John (and into the tabernacle), the Spirit leads us in chapters 4-6 to the food and drink of the Table of Shewbread, as Christ is presented as "Living Water" and "Living Bread."

In John 8 and 9 we are taken to the Golden Candlestick as twice Jesus proclaims, "I am the Light of the world," and "he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

In John 14-16, the Spirit of God brings us as it were, to the Altar of Incense, as Jesus teaches us to pray in His name — the name that is to the Father a sweet smelling savor.

Then in John 17 we are taken beyond the veil into the Holy of Holies to behold our Great High Priest, the Lord Jesus Christ, making intercession for us in the presence of God. Here, Christ is seen not only as our High Priest, but as the Ark and the Mercy Seat through whom we have found access and acceptance with His Father and God. Jesus said in John 20:17, "I ascend unto my Father, and YOUR Father; and to my God, and YOUR God."

Finally in Exodus 40:34, everything having been made according to the Divine Pattern was now to be filled with the Divine Glory. Coincidentally, the Gospel of John closes with Jesus breathing on His disciples saying, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost" (John 20:22).

CHRIST IS REVEALED:

In the HIGH PRIEST and his BREASTPLATE, who bears the names of God's people before the presence of God – Ex. 39:8-21 (Heb. 9:11; 10:19-22)

In the FOUR COLORS as representing the FOUR GOSPELS – Ex. 38:18, 23: 39:2, 3,5,8, 24, 29 Purple (Matthew) – Christ presented as the King.

Scarlet (Mark) – Christ presented as the Suffering Servant. White (Luke) – Christ presented as the sinless Man. Blue (John) – Christ presented as the Son of God come down from heaven.

DAY 25

INTRODUCTION TO LEVITICUS

We have now come to one of the most challenging sections of the Bible. Not because the language is difficult to understand, but because the intricate details regarding the sacrifices and feasts seem so boring and monotonous. Church Age believers mistakenly believe that Leviticus does not pertain to them because we no longer offer animal sacrifices or celebrate the Jewish feasts. However, God tells us that “ALL scripture is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” (II Tim 3:16; see also Ro. 15:4). So what does Leviticus have to do with my life today? Consider the following:

- Leviticus contains more words spoken directly by God than any other book in the Bible (Lev 1:1).
- Leviticus is quoted more than 40 times in the New Testament. Apparently, there is something very important that God wants to communicate to us in the book of Leviticus!
- Without Leviticus we could never understand the New Testament book of Hebrews. Leviticus foreshadows New Testament truths regarding the person and work of Jesus Christ.
- David continuously and emphatically declared that he delighted in God’s “statutes” (Ps. 119:16, 54, 80). Many of God’s statutes are recorded in Leviticus (Lev. 3:17). Apparently, David, the man after God’s own heart, DELIGHTED in the book of Leviticus!
- Leviticus reveals that God, through Jesus Christ, has prepared for us a SACRIFICE (Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God – John 1:29), a PRIEST (Jesus Christ, the great High Priest – Heb 3:1) and a PLACE (Heaven, where Jesus Christ is enthroned – I Pet. 3:22). Not only has God prepared these things for us, but He has made each believer a SACRIFICE (Rom 12:1, 2), a PRIEST (I Pet. 2:5) and a PLACE (Eph 2:22)!

The purpose of Leviticus is twofold: first, to show us that we must worship the LORD in holiness (the word “holy” appears 94 times in Leviticus!); and second, that worship is the only pathway to peace, rest and fruitfulness. God will not give you peace, rest or fruitfulness until you are worshiping Him in holiness.

Historically, the events recorded in Leviticus occur at the door of the tabernacle (Lev 1:1) over a period of one month (cp. Lev 1:1; Ex 40:17; Num 1:1). Having delivered His children by the blood of the lamb (Exodus), God plans to take them to a place of peace, rest and fruitfulness, but before they embark on their journey, they must first establish worship. Leviticus is Israel’s instruction book on worship. The word Leviticus means “that which pertains to the Levites” and is so called because the tribe of Levi was chosen by God to be Israel’s worship leaders. The word Levi means “joined to God” and because the Levites were joined to God they had no inheritance in the Promised Land; God was their inheritance.

TODAY’S READING: LEVITICUS 1-5

OVERVIEW:

The burnt offering; the meat (meal, grain) offering; the peace offering; the sin offering; the trespass offering

HIGHLIGHTS & INSIGHTS:

Chapters 1-5 describe five types of sacrifices, all of which are a prophetic picture of both Jesus Christ and New Testament believers.

Chapter 1 – The Burnt Offering

This offering represents the substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus Christ. As believers, we are to offer our bodies as living sacrifices, holy, acceptable unto God (Rom. 12:1). Note that the head and fat of the animal is laid upon the wood (vs.8), a picture of you and I laying our plans, our wills and our treasures upon the cross of Christ (Lk. 9:23). Notice also that the inside and the legs are washed in water (vs.9), representing our “inner man” (Eph. 3:16) and our “walk” (Col. 1:10) being washed with the water of the word of God (Eph. 5:26, 27).

Chapter 2 – The Meat (Meal, grain) Offering.

This is the only bloodless sacrifice. It represents the sinless life of Jesus Christ. The remnant of this offering was given to Aaron’s sons (vs.10) picturing Christ’s righteousness given to believers (II Cor. 5:21).

Chapter 3 – The Peace Offering

This offering represents the peace which Jesus Christ purchased for us with His own precious blood (Col. 1:20). Note that the kidney, caul and liver were taken away. These organs filter out poisonous chemicals. Through this sacrifice, God tells us that we have permanent genuine peace with Him through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Chapter 4 – The Sin Offering

This offering reveals how Jesus Christ has given believers victory over our sinful nature, the flesh. The sin referred to here is “ignorant sin”, meaning sin that mysteriously permeates our flesh; sin that is so deeply rooted that we are sometimes unconscious of it (see Ps. 19:12; 90:8; 139:23,24; Jer. 17:9; Rom. 7). Note that the whole body of the bullock (an ox or horned cow) is taken outside of the camp and burned. Our flesh is of no value or use to God and must therefore, be “put off” and “mortified” (Col. 3:5-17; Rom. 6:1-23).

Chapter 5 – The Trespass Offering

This offering represents Christ’s victory over specific individual sins, also called trespasses. This is the only sacrifice associated with money (v.15). Truly, “the wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23). Thanks be to God, Jesus Christ has paid the price for our sins with His precious blood (Acts 20:28).

Leviticus is a book of violence and blood. In fact, the word “offering” occurs 387 times, and the word “blood” appears 88 times. Why would a loving God require such horrible violence? Several reasons are obvious: first, without the shedding of blood there is no remission for sins (Heb. 9:22); second, God doesn’t want us to forget the horrible consequences of sin (James 1:15); third, God wants us to know that He loved us so much that He voluntarily (Lev. 1:3; Rom. 5:8) subjected His Son to bloody violence for the price of our sin; fourth, we are in a violent war with our flesh; finally, God desires to have every part of us, severally and wholly, and that can be very painful.

CHRIST IS REVEALED:

As our voluntary substitutionary sacrifice (Lev. 1 – burnt offering) who lived a sinless life (Lev. 2 – meat offering) and purchased peace with God (Lev. 3 – peace offering) by paying the price for our sins (Lev. 4 – trespass offering) and giving us victory over our flesh (Lev. 5 – sin offering).