Deuteronomy (5 and 6)

Description

Lesson 5 (be patient)

Deuteronomy 7:22 â??*And the LORD your God will put out those nations before you little by little. You may not destroy them at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon youâ??*.

Patience is something quite a few of us lack. In a western democracy that has grown up where everything is provided â??on tapâ?? , where we can easily get what we want when we want, we have developed a society that has very little patience. This culture has permeated our daily lives to such an extent that we no longer are able to make good decisions, invariably we make hasty decisions based on not very well thought out plans. Well thatâ??s me anyway.

As we saw in the last post, God is a faithful being. Therefore it follows that He will also grant us the ability to be patient and wait His timing.

We have here in these lessons from Deuteronomy a list of promises and the one we are looking at in this post is Patience. God specifically says to the children of Israel â??I will put out those nations before you, little by little.â• Or in other words â??I will claim the uninhabited places for youâ•

So often we want to run ahead of Godâ??s plan for our lives and all we end up doing is thwarting the very thing that God wants to accomplish in our lives, that of a complete life that honours Him.

This is a promise and at the same time a warning. We can read of instances when the children of Israel just forged ahead without Godâ??s blessing and ended up in a worse position than when they set out.

God wants us to exercise patience so that we can prove Him faithful and true.

Lesson 6 (Donâ??t Compromise/Donâ??t Covet)

Deuteronomy 7:25 â??*You shall burn the graven images of their gods with fire. You shall not desire the silver or gold on them, nor take it for yourself, so that you may not be snared in it. For it is an abomination to the LORD your Godâ??*.

Sometimes it is very hard to resist the temptations that the devil sets in our paths. More often than not it is to do with money, sex, or security. God wants to free us from such things. Yet we have a part to play, if we do not stand up for what is right then many more will suffer and fall into the trap of compromise.

There are many times that God warns the children of Israel not to compromise or covet. Telling them not to take what is not theirs. This begs the question what is ours as followers of Jesus? I suppose the answer lies somewhere in knowing where our security lies as it is so easy sometimes to just take what is on show, whether that be material, physical, mentally, emotionally, visually etc. God says NO and we have to listen for our own good. We have to stand up for what is right and not be so bound up with sin that so easily ensnares us. Hebrews 12:1.

It is really difficult not to compromise in a world that says you can have what you want, when you want. In this passage we have two specific commands

1. â??burn the graven images of their godsâ?•, their idols.
2. â??do not desire their silver or goldâ?• .

God wants us to burn our idols, the things in our lives that we worship, the things that we put before God himself. God also wants us to not covet, that is desire anything that belongs to someone else. We need to learn to be content with what we have. What I know is that God is able to deliver us from â??this sin that ensnares usâ?•, sin being anything that hinders me from worshiping my God as He would have me worship Him. Let us continue to trust almighty God and be content and complete in Him and His plan for us.

Help me Lord to recognise that you are my salvation and my fortress. You alone oh God are the only one who is able to sustain me and lift me out of despair and place my feet on a rock, on solid ground so that I, through your Grace can live a life that glorifies you. Amen

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Category

1. Deuteronomy

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