"A MEMORIAL Message from Deuteronomy!"

Selected Passages from Deuteronomy
5-25-2025

INTRODUCTION: Deuteronomy 4:23

Tomorrow, America will remember those who gave their lives and shed their blood and served our country so that we might be a free nation. In all our honoring of man, America has forgotten the sovereign God who ultimately is to be credited for the liberty we still enjoy in the USA.

***DON'T FORGET what the Lord has done for you!**

Allow Deuteronomy's memorial message to Israel to admonish you to "never forget" God.

I. NEVER FORGET the BONDAGE you were chained to before God redeemed you (Deut. 5:15; 15:15; 24:18, 22)

II. NEVER FORGET the PROVIDER by becoming preoccupied with His abundant provision (Deut. 6:10-12; 8:7-11a)

III. NEVER FORGET God's PAST VICTORIES; they will encourage you in future battles (Deut. 7:17-19)

IV. NEVER FORGET the LESSONS God taught you through life's difficult experiences (Deut. 8:2-5; 9:7)

V. NEVER FORGET God's PRECEPTS which you learned from His Word, the Scriptures (Deut. 8:11)

VI. NEVER FORGET God's ENABLING STRENGTH which empowered you to achieve what good you have in life (Deut. 8:12-18)

VII. NEVER FORGET God's UNMERITED FAVOR whereby He did not give us what we deserved but gave us what we have purely by grace (Deut. 9:4-7)

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I. NEVER FORGET the BONDAGE you were chained to before God redeemed you (Deut. 5:15; 15:15; 24:18, 22)

Deut. 5:15 -*"And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day."*

II. NEVER FORGET the PROVIDER by becoming preoccupied with His abundant provision (Deut. 6:10-12; 8:7-11a)

Deut. 6:12 -*"Then beware lest thou forget the LORD, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage."*

III. NEVER FORGET God's PAST VICTORIES; they will encourage you in future battles (Deut. 7:17-19)

Deut. 7:18 -*"Thou shalt not be afraid of them: but shalt well remember what the LORD thy God did unto Pharaoh, and unto all Egypt."*

IV. NEVER FORGET the LESSONS God taught you through life's difficult experiences (Deut. 8:2-5; 9:7)

Deut. 8:2 -*"And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness; to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldst keep his commandments, or no."*

V. NEVER FORGET God's <u>PRECEPTS</u> which you learned from His Word, the Scriptures (Deut. 8:11)

Deut. 8:11 -*"Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day."*

VI. NEVER FORGET God's <u>ENABLING STRENGTH</u> which empowered you to achieve what good you have in life (Deut. 8:12-18)

Deut. 8:18 -*"But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day."*

VII. NEVER FORGET God's <u>UNMERITED FAVOR</u> whereby He did not give us what we deserved but gave us what we have purely by grace (Deut. 9:4-7)

Deut. 9:6 -*"Understand therefore, that the LORD thy God giveth thee not this good land to possess it for thy righteousness; for thou art a stiffnecked people."*

"A Memorial Message from Deuteronomy!"

Selected Passages from Deuteronomy
5/25/03

INTRODUCTION: Deuteronomy 4:23

"Memorial" - (akin to "memory") to call to remembrance; to be reminded of something.

Tomorrow, Memorial Day parades will fill the streets of our country.

American flags will proudly hang on the porches of millions of homes, and the red, white, and blue will flow in the wind throughout our land.

Memorial services will be conducted at our nations capitol to remember the heroes of our country.

Prov. 10:7 - *"The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot."*

Tomorrow, America will remember those who gave their lives and shed their blood and served our country so that we might be a free nation.

In all our honoring of man, America has forgotten the sovereign God who ultimately is to be credited for the liberty we still enjoy in the USA.

America has forgotten God.

--His memory has been erased from the textbooks of the public schools.

--His name is no longer uttered in prayer from the lips of children and teachers in classrooms and auditoriums of the public schools in our land.

--The faith of our founding fathers and the righteous, Biblical principles that our country was founded upon have been deliberately eradicated from memory.

It is a gravely serious matter for a nation to forget God: *"The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God"* (Ps. 9:17).

Hos. 4:6 - *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me; seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."*

If we do not make deliberate efforts to retain God's Word in our hearts, all of us run the risk of gradually forgetting all that He is, all that He has done (in the past), all He will do (in the future), and all He can do (in the present).

How do we forget?

1) Negligence - We fail to take the steps necessary to remember:

   a. Daily reading of God's Word (in devotions)
   b. Frequent hearing of God's Word (in church)

2) Distractions - We become distracted by the world with its glitter, pomp, and pleasures

3) Busyness - We become so busy in lower-priority matters that we neglect the weightier matters

4) Carnal Pursuit of Pleasures - Wine & Women - (Prov.31:3-5)

The Bible is filled with examples and illustrations of means by which God's people were to remember their Lord, His Word, and His mighty acts in history:

1) **The Song of the Law, taught to Israel by Moses** (Deut. 31:19, 21 - *"Now therefore write ye this song for you, and teach it the children of Israel: put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for me against the children of Israel. . . And it shall come to pass, when many evils and troubles are befallen them, that this song shall testify against them as a witness; for it shall not be forgotten out of the mouths of their seed: for I know their imagination which they go about, even now, before I have brought them int o the land which I sware.")*

2) **The rock piles left as memorials** (Josh. 4:7 - *"Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever.")*

3) **God's Law written on door posts and gates** (Deut. 6:9 - *"And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.")*

4) **The Jewish holidays** (Lev. 23)

5) **The Lord's Supper** (Lk. 22:19 - *"And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given f or you: this do in remembrance of me.")*

All of us need reminders (II Peter 1:12, 13, 15; 3:1).

***DON'T FORGET what the Lord has done for you!**

Allow Deuteronomy's memorial message to Israel to admonish you to "never forget" God.

I. NEVER FORGET the BONDAGE you were chained to before God redeemed

you (Deut. 5:15; 15:15; 24:18, 22)

They were slaves in Egypt, forced to labor as animals--expelling energy, sweat, their very lives under the whips of Pharaoh's task masters.

No freedom, no civil liberties, no vacations, and no fair pay.

Their cries came up before the ears of the God of Heaven. He had compassion on t hem and sent Moses to free them from Pharaoh's grip. They saw the ten plagues; they experienced the drying up of the Red Sea, they crossed over on dry ground; they witnessed the drowning of Pharaoh's army.

Ex. 13:3 - *"And Moses said unto the people, Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the LORD brought you out from this place: there shall no leavened bread be eaten."*

We, like Israel, were also once slaves. Slaves to sin and unrighteousness (Rom. 6:16-20). We were *"dead in trespasses and sins"* (Eph. 2:1); unable to free ourselves; powerless to wash away our sins (Jer. 13:23); at enmity with God until He took the initiative and redeemed our souls by Christ's blood (I Pet. 1:18-19).

EX: Pilgrim's Progress. The load Pilgrim had on his back was only removed at the cross.

For some of us, our bondage was materialism. For others, drugs or alcohol, immoral sex, religion, self-righteousness, etc.

Isaiah 51:1 - *"Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the LORD: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged."*

"Never forget how lost you were before Jesus saved you." (E.R. Jordan)

Whenever we forget the thrill of Christ's salvation, when the "new birth" becomes a faded experience, then we soon become cold in our love for Christ.

II. NEVER FORGET the PROVIDER by becoming preoccupied with His abundant provision (Deut. 6:10-12; 8:7-11a)

America like no other nation is a land of plenty (a country of abundance).

There exists a great danger in "things" (goods, possessions) -- to get so obsessed (wrapped up) with the blessings that we forget the Blesser.

We become: independent, proud, self-sufficient (EX: Laodicea Church - Rev. 3).

Remember where blessings in life come from (Ps. 103:2 - *"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits").*

The Doxology says: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

III. NEVER FORGET God's <u>PAST VICTORIES</u>; they will encourage you in future battles (Deut. 7:17-19)

--David's victory over the lion and the bear encouraged him to face Goliath (I Sam. 17:36).

--Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's answers to prayer (Dan. 2) encouraged them not to fear the fiery furnace (Dan. 3).

What has God done in your life? Remembering His past faithfulness will bolster your faith in His faithfulness tomorrow.

IV. NEVER FORGET the <u>LESSONS</u> God taught you through life's difficult experiences (Deut. 8:2-5; 9:7)

Some of us only learn the "hard way" in life. After we graduate from the "School of Hard Knocks," we have the bumps, bruises, and scars as practical reminders that sin does not pay.

God's way works! Our way is futility and frustration.

When we don't learn the lessons God attempts to teach us, we go through the wringer again and again - we "stay back" in God's school again - we don't graduate, but rather go through the same vicious cycles over and over again until we finally learn.

What lessons has God been trying to teach you? Why not give in? Don't be mule-headed! Ps. 32:9 - *"Be not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee."* Rather, let's be like Ps. 32:8 - very pliable and quick to follow God's guidance - *"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with Mine eye*."

V. NEVER FORGET God's <u>PRECEPTS</u> which you learned from His Word, the Scriptures (Deut. 8:11)

SEE: Psalm 119:16, 83, 93, 109, 141, 153, 176.

<u>How to NOT FORGET God's Word</u>:

1) <u>Hide it</u> in your heart systematically (memorize Scripture)

> Psalm 119:11 - *"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."*

2) <u>Meditate</u> on it continually

> Joshua 1:8 - *"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."*

3) <u>Obey it</u> intently

> James 1:25 - *"But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and*

continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

4) Sing it joyfully

Colossians 3:16 - *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."*

5) Teach it diligently

Deuteronomy 6:7 - *"And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."*

VI. NEVER FORGET God's ENABLING STRENGTH which empowered you to achieve what good you have in life (Deut. 8:12-18)

Paul testified, *"By the grace of God I am what I am"* (I Cor. 15:10).

In our pride we take credit for that which God has done in our lives.

Our health, wealth, intelligence, giftedness, opportunities, successes are from God.

"Without Me, ye can do nothing" (Jn. 15:5).

I Cor. 4:7 - *"For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?"*

VII. NEVER FORGET God's UNMERITED FAVOR whereby He did not give us what we deserved but gave us what we have purely by grace (Deut. 9:4-7)

When God established the nation of Israel, He didn't find the nation worthy of the

grace He would shower upon her (Ezek. 16:3-15).

CONCLUSION:

In all of our memorials, in all of our remembrances of mortal heroes. . . we must remember God!

It is "In God We Trust."