

No Other God Like Our God

Deuteronomy 4:1 Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers giveth you. 2 Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you. 3 Your eyes have seen what the Lord did because of Baal-peor: for all the men that followed Baal-peor, the Lord thy God hath destroyed them from among you. 4 But ye that did cleave unto the Lord your God are alive every one of you this day. 5 Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the Lord my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it. 6 Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. 7 For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for? 8 And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day? 9 Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons; 10 Specially the day that thou stoodest before the Lord thy God in Horeb, when the Lord said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children. 11 And ye came near and stood under the mountain; and the mountain burned with fire unto the midst of heaven, with darkness, clouds, and thick darkness. 12 And the Lord spake unto you out of the midst of the fire: ye heard the voice of the words, but saw no similitude; only ye heard a voice. 13 And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone. 14 And the Lord commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go over to possess it. 15 Take ye therefore good heed unto yourselves; for ye saw no manner of similitude on the day that the Lord spake unto you in Horeb out of the midst of the fire: 16 Lest ye corrupt yourselves, and make you a graven image, the similitude of any figure, the likeness of male or female, 17 The likeness of any beast that is on the earth, the likeness of any winged fowl that flieth in the air, 18 The likeness of any thing that creepeth on the ground, the likeness of any fish that is in the waters beneath the earth: 19 And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the Lord thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven. 20 But the Lord hath taken you, and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, even out of Egypt, to be unto him a people of inheritance, as ye are this day. 21 Furthermore the Lord was angry with me for your sakes, and sware that I should not go over Jordan, and that I should not go in unto that good land, which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance: 22 But I must die in this land, I must not go over Jordan: but ye shall go over, and possess that good land. 23 Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the Lord your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which the Lord thy God hath forbidden thee. 24 For the Lord thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God. 25 When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt yourselves, and make a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the Lord thy God, to provoke him to anger: 26 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed. 27 And the Lord shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the Lord shall lead you. 28 And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell. 29 But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul. 30 When thou art in tribulation, and all these

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things are come upon thee, even in the latter days, if thou turn to the Lord thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice; 31 (For the Lord thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he swore unto them. 32 For ask now of the days that are past, which were before thee, since the day that God created man upon the earth, and ask from the one side of heaven unto the other, whether there hath been any such thing as this great thing is, or hath been heard like it? 33 Did ever people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live? 34 Or hath God assayed to go and take him a nation from the midst of another nation, by temptations, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by a stretched out arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the Lord your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes? 35 Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the Lord he is God; there is none else beside him. 36 Out of heaven he made thee to hear his voice, that he might instruct thee: and upon earth he shewed thee his great fire; and thou heardest his words out of the midst of the fire. 37 And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt; 38 To drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou art, to bring thee in, to give thee their land for an inheritance, as it is this day. 39 Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the Lord he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else. 40 Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the Lord thy God giveth thee, for ever.

- The word covenant is used in this passage. We need to understand that word. 13 And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone. 23 Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the Lord your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which the Lord thy God hath forbidden thee. 31 (For the Lord thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he swore unto them.
- A covenant is a promise between God and man
- Some covenants are conditional and others are unconditional
- God made 7 covenants in the Bible. 4 of those covenants are with Israel
- The first covenant that is implied is with Adam, the human race. They were to obey but failed and God gave His grace Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.
- His covenant with Noah that He would not destroy the earth again with a flood Genesis 9:15 And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. 16 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth. 17 And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.
- The first time the word covenant is used is with Noah
- We also find the covenant with Abraham which includes great blessings. It is an unconditional covenant. That simply means that no conditions are added. If there was a condition here it was only that he get out of his country and from his family
- We have the covenant He gave in Palestine

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- We have the covenant that He gave David
 - We have the New Covenant
 - These covenants are everlasting, till the end of the world in other words
 - That means that they will play a big part in the events that will happen as the end of this world comes about.
 - You will see these mentioned all through the Bible
1. They are to teach the people to do the Word of God 1 Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers giveth you.
 - a. Moses gave them the law and taught it to them
 - i. They didn't get the Word in a vacuum where they would have to guess if it was His Word
 - ii. They didn't have to guess what it meant because Moses taught them
 - iii. The Word was given in an organized fashion
 - iv. The Word was taught to men of all levels who would be able to teach others also
 - v. Though they would know the law they would not keep the law
 1. God would have to provide with the law a sacrifice to atone for their failures
 2. Man would fail
 3. God would step in and offer Himself as a sacrifice
 - b. It was about transformation and not information 14 And the Lord commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go over to possess it.
 - i. There was never the idea of knowing more about God's Word or even God
 - ii. The idea was that they would put it into practice
 - iii. The Word of God is for living
 - iv. They were to do but the actual doing is impossible
 - v. That is why in the very law they had sacrifices given to them. They were to know that they couldn't but He was a good and gracious God
 - c. Remember to take care of your spiritual life first 9 Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;
 - i. Keep your soul
 1. It is so easy to like to teach others what to do but another think to live it out
 2. God's people would become incredibly judgmental and critical
 3. But they were supposed to take care of their own soul, themselves before they worried about others
 - ii. Don't forget what God has shown you
 1. The problem is that we can get close to God and love Him but life goes on and we move on
 2. We get cold, we let what know move to the back burner
 - iii. Don't let them depart from your heart
 1. It will take work to keep them in your heart
 2. Work at memorizing
 3. Live it out and teach others
 4. Do what you can to keep it in your hear

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- d. Teach your children and your grandchildren what God has taught you 10 Specially the day that thou stoodest before the Lord thy God in Horeb, when the Lord said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children.
 - i. We must teach our children
 - ii. We must see the Word of God as super important
 - iii. We know that their success in life and death will be proportionate to their knowledge of the Word of God and their obedience to it
 - e. Remember that the purpose of the Law is to bring us to Jesus and grace. It was never really for keeping but to cause us to realize that we couldn't keep it Galatians 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.
2. They were to have a high respect for the Word of God 2 Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.
- a. They were not to add to nor take away from the Word of God
 - i. They did add to the Word by putting their fence around the law
 - ii. They did take away from it as they ignored the parts that didn't fit their paradigm
 - b. The Word was given for them to obey it, keep it
 - i. We also have the Word and are to obey it
 - ii. We are to observe all that He has said
 - iii. We can't observe so we get to Calvary
 - iv. After we are saved we realize that He has placed desires in us to do His will
 - c. God made them hear with their ears so that they would know that it was His Word 10 Specially the day that thou stoodest before the Lord thy God in Horeb, when the Lord said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children.
 - i. Hearing God Himself say His Words would cause them to fear Him
 - ii. He wanted them to see the importance of His Word so that they would teach it to their children
 - iii. We should know that we have the very Word of God in our hands
 - iv. We should be committed to teaching it to our children
 - d. There was no image only a voice 12 And the Lord spake unto you out of the midst of the fire: ye heard the voice of the words, but saw no similitude; only ye heard a voice.
 - i. They will later try to make images of God, idols
 - ii. He reminds them that He never showed them anything to look at
 - iii. He gave them His Word, His voice
 - iv. It seems that we so desperately want more than His Word
 - 1. We want signs and wonders
 - 2. We want feelings

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3. We want something more than just His Word and that causes great spiritual failure
 - e. When God showed Himself it was to teach us and make us know His Word 36 Out of heaven he made thee to hear his voice, that he might instruct thee: and upon earth he shewed thee his great fire; and thou heardest his words out of the midst of the fire.
 - i. So we must become people of His Word
 - ii. He has given proof to His people here that the Bible is more than just what Moses wrote
 - iii. It is the very Word of God and they know that because they have heard with their own ears
 - f. The Word of God made them wiser than others 6 Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.
 - i. God's people were advanced
 - ii. They suffered from less disease
 - iii. Their relationship was different among themselves because they knew how to treat each other
 - iv. They had less poverty because they knew how to treat their people
 - g. God wanted them to teach their children to love, reverence, respect or fear Him 10 Specially the day that thou stoodest before the Lord thy God in Horeb, when the Lord said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children.
 - i. God's people were to fear Him
 - ii. They were to teach their children the same thing
3. There is no other God like their God, the One and true God of Heaven 35 Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the Lord he is God; there is none else beside him.
 - a. He made them a great nation because He is a great God with His great Word and truth 6 Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.
 - i. God gave them His law
 - ii. That made them wiser than others Psalm 119:98 Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: For they are ever with me. 99 I have more understanding than all my teachers: For thy testimonies are my meditation. 100 I understand more than the ancients, Because I keep thy precepts.
 - iii. It made them know how to live
 - b. God was close to them and answered their prayers 7 For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for?
 - i. Gods you make with your hands can't answer prayer
 - ii. Gods you make you will only be close to you when you carry them
 - iii. Gods you make can't make you
 - iv. So those false gods never made a great nation
 - v. The nation made their god but God made His nation
 - c. God gave them good and true laws that were right for everyone 8 And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?

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- i. Powerful people make laws that protect them and make life comfortable for them
- ii. They do not think of the little people but God did
- iii. They do not care for the poor but God told His people to care for them
- iv. They do not balance the power and truth so that the little man gets a fair trial but God did
- d. God gave them His Word but never showed Himself so that they would never stoop to making images of Him
16 Lest ye corrupt yourselves, and make you a graven image, the similitude of any figure, the likeness of male or female,
 - i. He gave them the 10 commandments
 - ii. He gave them laws to know how to live
 - iii. He gave them sacrifices
 - iv. But He was never something small enough to understand
 - v. His revelation of Himself was His Word
- e. God made them. He brought them out of Egypt. He gave them the inheritance that they were about to get 20
But the Lord hath taken you, and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, even out of Egypt, to be unto him a people of inheritance, as ye are this day.
 - i. Notice it is all God doing it
 - ii. He took them, brought them, and made them a people of inheritance
 - iii. Look on God as the power and not you
 - iv. You doubt your salvation because you think of what you did and not what He did
 - v. You put the emphasis on the wrong person, the wrong thing. You think in terms of your faith and not what your faith was put in
- f. It was God that was giving them what they would have. They were not doing it but getting it 21 Furthermore the Lord was angry with me for your sakes, and sware that I should not go over Jordan, and that I should not go in unto that good land, which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance:
 - i. Again it is God that gave them the inheritance
 - ii. They did not earn it
 - iii. They were going to fight for it but the battle was already won
 - iv. They needed to know that it was God who won the battle
 - v. Who is it that has won your salvation for you? Who is it that gives you victory in your Christian life? Is it you or is it Him?
- g. God hates other gods or those that would try and take His place 24 For the Lord thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.
 - i. The consuming fire was against the idols and those that make and worship them
 - ii. He is jealous meaning that He wants your exclusive love
 - iii. Wouldn't it be strange if He said well I can take you or leave you it isn't that important
 - iv. His love is greater than just here it is.
 - v. He really wants you James 4:5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?
- h. His promise that they would be on the promised land was conditioned on them not making false gods 26 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed. 27 And

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the Lord shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the Lord shall lead you. 28 And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.

- i. If they chose to make idols they would end up serving them
 - ii. They would lose the blessings of His promises to them
 - iii. He would restore them and not forsake them but they could lose the blessings
 - iv. Your salvation is not conditional
 - v. But your enjoying its benefits is conditional Psalm 51:12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit.
- i. But He never would leave them without His grace 29 But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul. 30 When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, even in the latter days, if thou turn to the Lord thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;
- i. Notice the But If
 - ii. They just had to realize that they were wrong and could get back in the blessings
 - iii. It often takes tribulation, problems, hurts to cause us to come back and turn
 - iv. God loves you and wants you to be enjoying His promises
 - v. He is ready for you to turn back to Him
 - vi. If you are off track then realize that the hurt isn't Him doing it but you and the consequences of your disobedience
 - vii. Turn and He is ready to help you again
- j. God is good. 31 (For the Lord thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he swore unto them.
- k. Never forget that He constantly reminds us that He created man 32 For ask now of the days that are past, which were before thee, since the day that God created man upon the earth, and ask from the one side of heaven unto the other, whether there hath been any such thing as this great thing is, or hath been heard like it?
- i. If you take the literal creation out of the Bible you will have lots of holes in your Bible like here
 - ii. God is showing that He is being super good to His people because no one has ever seen anything like this since the very beginning
 - iii. God spoke to a people
 - iv. God gave them His Word 33 Did ever people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live?
 - v. God gave them promises
 - vi. God chose them to use them for His purposes
 - vii. God made nobodies into something great 34 Or hath God assayed to go and take him a nation from the midst of another nation, by temptations, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by a stretched out arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the Lord your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?
- l. God wanted them to know that He is the One and Only God of all eternity 35 Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the Lord he is God; there is none else beside him.

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- i. He had made them know it was Him giving the Word 36 Out of heaven he made thee to hear his voice, that he might instruct thee: and upon earth he shewed thee his great fire; and thou heardest his words out of the midst of the fire.
- ii. He loved them when they didn't deserve it 37 And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt;
- iii. He chose them for a purpose 37 And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt;
 1. He chose them to drive out the nations that worshipped false gods 38 To drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou art, to bring thee in, to give thee their land for an inheritance, as it is this day.
 2. He chose them to bring them in to the promised land
 3. He chose them to give them the land
 4. He chose for a purpose
 5. He chose to bless them
 6. He chose them as a nation
 7. They were the recipients not the doers
- iv. So they should know that He is God and no one else 39 Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the Lord he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.
- v. He gave His Word to bless them and cause it to go well for them. His Word was for them 40 Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the Lord thy God giveth thee, for ever.
 1. Remember it is God that is giving them everything
 2. It is God that saved you and that is why you can trust that His salvation is for ever
 3. You should know that God is being kind to you in all that He is doing
 4. He is a good God

- Remember that He is a God of covenants
- He makes promises and He keeps them
- He is a God of great grace and mercy
- If you realize who He is and what He has done then you should be ready to serve Him with all your heart

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Vision Baptist Church is an independent Baptist church pastored by Austin Gardner. We are located in Alpharetta, GA, in the southern end of Forsyth County.

We are a missions-minded church with a goal of fully honoring God and helping families draw closer to Him.

You will feel welcome and loved, and you will receive a wonderful blessing from God's Word when you visit Vision Baptist Church.

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