

May 22nd, 2022AM

Deuteronomy 10:14-19 – “Your Response to God’s Love”

- A. In light of God’s greatness & His lovingkindness, how does that affect your living?
1. **1 Jn 3:14** “**We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.**”
 - a. If you love Christ, you will love His church — His holy bride.
 - b. Today’s text gives another command how you are to respond to God’s love
- C. The book of **Deuteronomy** is a series of farewell messages by Israel’s 120-year-old leader, Moses.
1. It was addressed to the new generation destined to possess the promised land.
 2. Deuteronomy means “**2nd law.**” It is a 2nd application of the law given on Mt. Sinai.

Your Response to God’s Love	I. <u>GOD’S ELECTING LOVE</u> II. <u>GOD’S MERCIFUL LOVE</u> III. <u>YOUR RESPONSIVE LOVE</u>
-----------------------------	---

I. GOD’S ELECTING LOVE → **vv14-15**

A. Next time you look at the stars above or read about the immensity of our universe, think of God’s power, greatness, & love.

David in **Ps 8:3-4** asked a profound God-centered question when he looked at the immensity stars: “**When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon & the stars, which You have ordained; what is man that You take thought of him, & the son of man that You care for him?**”

B. **Deut 10** says the same sort of thing as **Ps 8** yet with some revealing answers for us. → **v14**

1. God set His love on their fathers as they suffered under bondage of slavery in Egypt.
2. If you trust in Jesus as your Lord & Savior, you are the children of promise by faith.
 - a) At the end of **Gal 3** it says, “**If you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, & heirs according to the promise.**”
 - b) Yes, He owns over 1 septillion stars— the earth & all that is in it, yet He set His affection on you.

C. Today’s text says that God’s electing love spans generations → **2nd ½ of v15.**

1. **Acts 2** “**The promise is for you & your children & for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself**”
2. That is the reason we baptize our infants & diligently teach them to live as children of promise.

II. GOD'S MERCIFUL LOVE → v 17

A. Notice again how G's merciful love is given in context of His greatness.

1. A note on grammar here: in English we have something called a "superlative" (greatest).
 - a. To express the best of something, Hebrew uses phrases such as "King of kings" or "Lord of lords."
 - a. **"God of gods"** means THE absolute God.
 - b. This verse does not give any validity to the claim that there are such things as lesser gods.
 - c. Letting Script interpret Script, **Isa 44** describes the foolishness of those who make and worship idols. → Turn to **Isa 44:8-20**
 - d. There is only 1 God who has revealed Himself in 3 persons: Father, Son, & Holy Spirit.
4. In **v 17**, our God is further exalted, the **2nd ½ v. 17** tells us that He is **"...the great God, mighty & awesome, who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe."**

B. Considering our true God's attributes—He is **"great, mighty & awesome [& righteous];"** **v18** tells us also that He is a God of merciful love. → look at **v18**

III. OUR RESPONSIVE LOVE →v 19

A. Heb wd trans as **"stranger"** can also mean "foreigner"

1. In our modern context we can think of "immigrants;" still, the term is more broad:
 - a. A stranger is one who is an outsider to the covenant community.
 - b. When a new visitor— even if Christian for many may still be still a stranger to us.
2. Moses reminded people of Israel, that they they **"...were strangers in the land of Egypt."**
 - a. They were strangers/foreigners because that was not the place of ancestry.
 - c. God remembered them in their plight & delivered them.

B. Perhaps some of you might say, "What does this mean for me today? I was never a stranger in the land of Egypt."

1. If you have embraced Christ with saving faith, you have been freed from a much greater & more horrible slavery.
 - a. You have been freed from the tyranny of the Devil.
 - b. If you are His by saving faith, you have freed from the power of sin.
 - 1) **Rom 6** **"...consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts" (11-12).**
 - 2) By the power of the Holy Spirit, Christians can reign over sin through Christ rather than let sin reign over them.

2. Come, Thou Fount of Every blessing:

"Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God:
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood."

C. How do we response to His electing, merciful, covenantal love? Love the stranger in your midst.

This is a call for the practice of Christian hospitality.

Review, further application, & conclusion: