**Parashat Devarim**

**פרשה דברים**

Shabbat Av 6, 5770, July 17, 2010

32:1-32:52 MATSATI.COM / Rightly Dividing The Word of G-d

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**The Importance of the Word**

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| **השבועות הזה קוראים / This Week’s Reading** |
| **תורה:****הפטרה:****הברית:****החדשה:** | Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22Isaiah 1:1-27Acts 9:1-21, 1 Timothy 3:1-7 |

This week’s reading (*Devarim / Deuteronomy 2:31-3:22*) shows the Children of Yisrael beginning to take the Promised Land. The book of Deuteronomy emphasizes the importance of God’s Word as being a vital part of our lives. Yisrael is commanded to remember four things (i) *“G-d’s faithfulness”* in that He has kept His promises to their forefathers, (ii) *“G-d’s holiness”* illustrated in the command to destroy the places of wickedness in the land, (iii) *“G-d’s blessing,”* that He is with you and will fight for you (*Devarim / Deuteronomy 3:21-22*) and (iv) *“G-d’s warnings”* to obey what He has commanded.

**2:31-35דברים**



**Devarim / Deturonomy 2:31-35**

2:31 ‘The Lord said to me, 'See, I have begun to deliver Sihon and his land over to you. Begin to occupy, that you may possess his land.' 2:32 ‘Then Sihon with all his people came out to meet us in battle at Jahaz. 2:33 ‘The Lord our God delivered him over to us, and we defeated him with his sons and all his people. 2:34 ‘So we captured all his cities at that time and utterly destroyed the men, women and children of every city. We left no survivor. 2:35 ‘We took only the animals as our booty and the spoil of the cities which we had captured. (NASB)

A survey of the book of Deuteronomy shows that *Devarim / Deuteronomy* chapter *4* is a call to obedience and faithfulness to G-d Who has remained faithful to His people. Chapter 5 through 26 is a retelling of a portion of the Torah that details the Ten Commandments, the instructions concerning sacrifices and special holy days. Sefer *Devarim / Deuteronomy* concludes with the theme of blessings and cursing in chapters 27-30. A blessing is promised to those who obey (see *Devarim / Deuteronomy 5:29, 6:17-19, 11:13-15*) and a famine is promised to those who break the Torah (see *Devarim / Deuteronomy 11:16-17*). A choice has been set before the Children of Yisrael *“I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing.”* Here G-d desires for His people to “choose life” (*Devarim / Deuteronomy 30:19*).

 During the time of Yeshua’s testing, He quoted from sefer *Devarim / Deuteronomy* three times in Matthew chapter *4*. In doing this Yeshua illustrated for us the necessity of hiding G-d’s Word in our hearts that we might not sin against him *Psalms 119:11 Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You. (NASB)*

**Temptation #1**

***Devarim / Deuteronomy 8:3*** *‘He humbled you and let you be hungry, and fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord. (NASB)*



**Temptation #2**

***Devarim / Deuteronomy 6:16*** *‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested Him at Massah. (NASB)*

**Temptation #3**

***Devarim / Deuteronomy 6:13*** *‘You shall fear only the Lord your God; and you shall worship Him and swear by His name. (NASB)*

**Matthew 4:1-11**

4:1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 4:2 And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry. 4:3 And the tempter came and said to Him, ‘If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.’ 4:4 But He answered and said, ‘It is written, 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.'‘ 4:5 Then the devil took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, 4:6 and said to Him, ‘If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command His angels concerning You'; and 'On their hands they will bear You up, So that You will not strike Your foot against a stone.'‘ 4:7 Jesus said to him, ‘On the other hand, it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'‘ 4:8 Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; 4:9 and he said to Him, ‘All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me.’ 4:10 Then Jesus said to him, ‘Go, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'‘ 4:11 Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him. (NASB)



As Yisrael remembered G-d’s faithfulness, so should we. Yeshua remembered the faithfulness of G-d and the importance of having the Scriptures written upon our hearts so that we do not sin. The Scriptures gives us clear purpose in our lives revealing to us a risen Savior. A Savior Who gives meaning to life, to sanctify the Name of G-d upon the earth, and Who assures us of friendship and help. The Torah reveals to us that G-d will meet our needs; the crossing of the Red Sea, the holy presence at Sinai, and the blessing of manna in the desert should be an encouragement to us. G-d has given us the true “bread of life” Yeshua the Messiah, a Savior Who is risen from the dead Who is the first fruits of the resurrection. We can rest assured that no enemy will prevail against us in accusations before the throne of G-d’s justice because our Savior and advocate lives to make intercession for us. What a wonderful G-d and awesome Savior we have.

**Be Blessed in Yeshua our Messiah!**

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**הללויה לאדוננו מורנו ורבינו ישוע מלך המשיח לעולם ועד:**

Hallelujah for our Lord, our Teacher, our Rabbi,

“Yeshua” King Messiah forever and ever