### Bethany Bible Study & Discussion



Deuteronomy Part-32

(chapter 30)

9.06.2023

### Chapter 30

#### Restoration | the Laws | the Choice

What is the path to restoration? What leads to change of heart? (1-3)

What is restored to repentant Israel? (4-10)

What can we say about the nature of God's laws? (11-15)

What are the choices offered to Israelites, and what are the consequences? (16-20)

#### The Covenant

(chapters 29 & 30)

29:9 Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do.

29:29 The secret things belong unto

the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

#### **Covenant** reviewed and renewed: 29:1-19

- Divine, Inclusive, and Inter-generational covenant
- Content: all the laws (10 commandments |civic & ceremonial laws)
- Goal: To form a people unto Himself
- <u>Condition</u>: Obedience (No idolatry)

#### **Punishment** for breaking the covenant: 20:20-29

 curses, sickness, plague, destruction & dispersion, seen by other nations

**Restoration** for returning to the covenant: Chapter 30

### God's love for sinners and fallen believers

**Sinners** need a Savior

(fallen) Believers need to be Restored

OT restoration: through sacrifices of animals

NT restoration: through the blood of Lord Jesus Christ

"blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" I John 1:7

## The path to restoration & The nature of restoration (1-10)

### for the Lord will <u>again</u> rejoice over thee for good (9)



Promise of RESTORATION

# The path to restoration & The nature of restoration (1-10)

And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath driven thee, <sup>2</sup> And shalt <u>return</u> unto the Lord thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul; <sup>3</sup> That then the Lord thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will <u>return and gather</u> thee from all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath scattered thee.

- <sup>4</sup> If any of thine be driven out unto the outmost parts of heaven, from thence will the Lord thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee: <sup>5</sup> And the Lord thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers.
- <sup>6</sup> And the Lord thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live. <sup>7</sup> And the Lord thy God will put all these curses upon thine enemies, and on them that hate thee, which persecuted thee.
- <sup>8</sup> And thou shalt <u>return</u> and obey the voice of the Lord, and do all his commandments which I command thee this day. <sup>9</sup> And the Lord thy God will make thee plenteous in every work of thine hand, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy land, for good: for the Lord will again rejoice over thee for good, as he rejoiced over thy fathers:

<sup>10</sup> If thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, and if thou <u>turn</u> unto the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.

And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath driven thee (1) As expected, children of Israel failed to keep the covenant (1)

**Consequence:** wrath of God

including scattered from promised land to other nations (1)

"The Lord shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other" (28:64)

Is there hope after disobedience?

#### **Path to Restoration**

<sup>2</sup> And shalt return unto the Lord thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul; <sup>3</sup> That then the Lord thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath scattered thee

- **1. Recognition** of punishment and disobedience (1)
- 2. Return & Obey (2, 10)
  - Return implies recognition of wrongs and repentance
    - Hosea 14:1 O Israel, return unto the Lord thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity.
- 3. God will show **compassion** (3)
- 4. God will **restore** (prophesy of full restoration, happens <u>in future</u>) (5-9)

Even today, believers are restored when they return to God with a repentant heart.

### God does not take pleasure in punishing

#### **EZEKIEL 18: 30-32**

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord God. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. <sup>31</sup> Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup> For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

#### **Luke 15:7**

... joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth

What leads to a Change of heart?

### What leads to a Change of heart?

Change of heart is the work of God (not human works) Without change of heart, we cannot repent or obey

<sup>6</sup> And the **Lord thy God will circumcise thine heart**, and the heart of thy seed, to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.

National salvation ... Romans <sup>26</sup> And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: <sup>27</sup> For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

## What is restored to repentant Israel?

\* full restoration yet to happen

#### Physical return

- Gathering from all nations (4-5)
- Brought back to the land possessed by fathers (6) (==> Israel)
  - Jeremiah 30:3 I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.
  - Amos 9:15 And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God.

#### Multiply more than their fathers (5)

Blessings (7-10) (curses on enemies, land restored, work rewarded)

Our God is a God of second chances ...

"Lord will <u>again</u> rejoice over you" (9)

### God's laws (11-15)

### God's laws (11-15)

- <sup>11</sup> For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off.
- <sup>12</sup> It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?
- <sup>13</sup> Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?
- <sup>14</sup> But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.
- <sup>15</sup> See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil;

Romans 10:1-10 <sup>8</sup>The word is night hee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

### Nature of God's laws

It is easily **understood** ... not a mystery (11)

It is easily **accessible** (not in heaven or beyond the sea, but in thy mouth and in thy heart) (12-15)

- So obedience should be a rational & easy response
- New covenant promise (laws from tablets to hearts)

Jeremiah 31: <sup>33</sup> But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts;

### The choice (16-20)

#### The choice

- <sup>16</sup> In that I command thee this day to love the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the Lord thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.
- <sup>17</sup> But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them;
- <sup>18</sup> I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, and that ye shall not prolong your days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it.
- <sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore **choose life**, that both thou and thy seed may live:
- <sup>20</sup> That thou mayest **love** the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest **obey** his voice, and that thou mayest **cleave** unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

### Love commanded

<sup>16</sup> In that I command thee this day to love the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments,

God loved Israelites and Israelites, in turn, commanded to love God (16)

**Deuteronomy 4: 37** And because <u>he loved</u> thy fathers, <u>therefore</u> he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt;

**Deuteronomy 7:7-8** The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: <sup>8</sup> But because the <u>Lord loved you</u>

Love of God expressed in deliverance from Egypt, sustenance in wilderness, and blessings in promised land

I JOHN 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.

### The Choice

See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil; (15)

I have set before you **life and death, blessing and cursing**: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: (19)

### Make the right choice

#### **CHOICES**

- Life versus death
- Blessings versus curses

Therefore, Choose life (19) ...

by choosing to love God, obey Him, cleave to Him (20)

## Joshua made the right choice ... how about you?

### **JOSHUA 24:15**

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

### Love is a choice

Jesus said, **If ye love me**, keep my commandments. (John 14:15)

### blessings follow obedience, in OT and NT

**Blessed** are those who hear the word of God and keep it"

Luke 11:28

### The law of the Lord

**Psalms 19:7** The law of the Lord is perfect, <u>converting</u> the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, <u>making wise</u> the simple.

**I John 5:3** ... and his commandments are <u>not grievous</u> (burdensome, NIV).

29:9
Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do.

Are you obedient to the laws of the Lord?
If not, what is causing disobedience?

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