

Walking On Water Thursday Nights

November 5th, 2009

Deuteronomy 4:15-31, “Moses’ Farewell Address”

I. Context

- a. **Numbers 27:14** Moses appoints Joshua and Deuteronomy gives Moses’ final addresses during his last two months before death.
- b. Israelites on the Plains of Moab about 39 years in desert at this time.
- c. Deuteronomy 1-3 Moses gives a great summary of Israel’s wandering in desert.
 - i. Coming out of Egypt to Horeb where Ten Commandments are given
 - ii. Moses appoints judges to delegate the leadership burden
 - iii. Israelites traveled through dreadful desert to Kadesh Barnea
 - iv. Spies Sent Out and return with bad report
 - v. Joshua and Caleb are only two who will enter
 - vi. Israel tried to go into the promised Land in their own effort/timing without INQUIRING of the Lord
 - vii. Wandered in desert for 38 years
 - viii. 1st victories in battles against Amorites and King of Bashan
 - ix. Division of the future promised land
 - x. Moses forbidden but Joshua will take his place

II. Moses’ First “Farewell Address” NO IDOLS READ Deuteronomy 4:15-31

1. LAW VS GRACE

Note: Law states we must be perfect.

Grace states Christ was perfect for us.

a. PURPOSE OF THE LAW

- i. **Romans 3:20** Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we **become conscious of sin**

b. **John 1:17** For the **law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.**

c. **LAW WAS A PICTURE OF THINGS TO COME:**

- i. **Hebrews 10:1-10** The **law is only a shadow** of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves.... **3**But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins, **4**because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins..... And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

d. JESUS FULLFILLED THE LAW:

- i. **Romans 8:1-4** Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,^[a] **2**because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. **3**For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature,^[b] **God did by sending his own Son** in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering.^[c] And so he condemned sin in sinful man,^[d] **4**in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.
- ii. **Matthew 5:17-18 Jesus Said** "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; **I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.** **18**I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

e. Contrast of Law (OLD) VS Gospel (NEW)

- i. The law was intended for one nation—Israel; the gospel of Christ is intended for the whole creation
- ii. The first covenant was dedicated with the blood of animals, the new covenant was dedicated with the blood of Jesus Christ.
- iii. Circumcision in the flesh was a sign of the first; circumcision in the heart and spirit is the sign of the second.
- iv. The law of Moses guaranteed to the obedient Hebrews temporal blessings; the gospel of Christ guarantees spiritual blessings to those who live up to its requirements
- v. The law of Moses prohibited murder; the gospel prohibits hatred.
- vi. The law of Moses forbade adultery; the gospel prohibits even lust
- vii. Old covenant had no direct access to God the Father, New covenant does through Jesus Christ

E. Old Covenant is now OLD and “Obsolete”

I. Hebrews 8:13 They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."^[a] **6**But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises. For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for

another. **8**But God found fault with the people... **13**By calling this covenant "new," he **has made the first one obsolete**; and what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear.

2. Idolatry

A. V.16-19 What is an IDOL today?

- i. **Romans 1:25** They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served **created things rather than the Creator**—who is forever praised. Amen.

1. RELATIONSHIPS CAN BE IDOLS

a. Britt's Daughter example

2. SPORTS

3. WORK

B. V. 24 God is a JEALOUS GOD.

- ii. God is jealous for us as Believers who are the **Bride of Christ**
- iii. Guy in France said, "Is it just all about RULES"

C. V. 30-31 God is MERCIFUL even in Old Testament