

# SUNDAY 9 AUG 2020 – LEST WE FORGET

## 1. INTRO TO READINGS

The best way to describe Deuteronomy is a collection of sermons and sayings from Moses as he reached the end of his life.

Deuteronomy is a picture of what a community might look like if it remained close to God.

- Out of slavery

- Into a land of Milk and Honey

If we think about Jesus' teaching about Kingdom of God, then Deuteronomy is the OT representation of it.

The Hebrew word **Shachah** שָׁחַה

Used 102 times in the OT.

Of those 102 there are 13 occurrences in Deuteronomy.

Only Psalms has more... and if you consider the number of chapters, then Deuteronomy has the highest density of appearances.

Of the 13 occurrences 11 of them are about us forgetting the Lord.

Towards the end of Deuteronomy Moses even composes a song about faithfulness to God that God urges them to sing so that they don't forget Him.

*Dt 31:21 And when many disasters and difficulties come upon them, this song will testify against them, because it will not be forgotten by their descendants.*

## 2. READINGS

Deuteronomy 6:4-12

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God,  
the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God  
with all your heart and with all your soul  
and with all your strength.

These commandments that I give you  
today are to be upon your hearts.

Impress them on your children.

Talk about them when you sit at home  
and when you walk along the road,

when you lie down

and when you get up.

Tie them as symbols on your hands  
and bind them on your foreheads.

Write them on the doorframes of  
your houses and on your gates.

When the LORD your God brings you into  
the land he swore to your fathers,  
to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob,  
to give you--a land with large,  
flourishing cities you did not build,  
houses filled with all kinds of good things  
you did not provide, wells you did not dig,  
and vineyards and olive groves you did not  
plant--then when you eat and are satisfied,  
be careful that you do not forget the LORD,  
who brought you out of Egypt,  
out of the land of slavery.

## 3. SERMON

### 3.1. INTRO

Our biggest danger is often when we're on the threshold of a break-through...

Three parts:

1. The Good News

2. How we respond to it

3. The Danger

### 3.2. THE GOOD NEWS

There is a God!

He's ONE

- Only
- A community of Love
- He sent His Son

And we can love Him. And He's worthy of our love.  
heart (control centre), soul (identity), strength (action)

### 3.3. HOW DO WE RESPOND

We walk in His commandments and ways in every part of our lives

- In our hearts
- With our kids
- Home and on the road
- Lying down and getting up
- Hands and Foreheads
- Doors and Gates

### 3.4. THE DANGER

The Promised Land - Blessings and Privileges - Comfort and Satisfaction

We can forget the Lord.

1. When we lose our distinctiveness  
there are values and standards that set us apart  
Beautiful law
2. When we have other gods  
Gods of Palestine - Fertility - gods of excess and sensuality  
Today our gods are power, pleasure and success.
3. When we forget our brokenness  
Brought out of slavery
4. When we get sucked into materialism  
Plenty bread and copper and iron in the hills
5. When we become "self made"  
"My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me."8:17
6. When you don't deal with brokenness  
The Amalekites
7. When we forget providence  
The Lord who gave us birth

### CONCLUSION

President announced the lowering of our lockdown level.

I am hopeful for our country. We have a long way to go, but I am hopeful.

But I'm worried for the church.

Lockdown brought us close to God, but we can watch church in bed on our own.

Now we move into the rebuilding phase.

Are we going to forget God?

- Do religion on our own terms?
- Forget that He has brought us through?
- Get sucked in by the goods of power, pleasure and success?
- Will materialism get the better of us?
- And will we be sucked into becoming our own self-made gods?

SHEMA - whispered into the ear at birth and death.

**Shema Yisrael Jaweh Elohim Jaweh Echad**

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul  
and with all your strength.