

Tuesday, March 26

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Deuteronomy 5:1 - 6:25

5 **1** Moses called all the people of Israel together and said, “Listen carefully, Israel. Hear the decrees and regulations I am giving you today, so you may learn them and obey them! **2** “The LORD our God made a covenant with us at Mount Sinai. **3** The LORD did not make this covenant with our ancestors, but with all of us who are alive today. **4** At the mountain the LORD spoke to you face to face from the heart of the fire. **5** I stood as an intermediary between you and the LORD, for you were afraid of the fire and did not want to approach the mountain. He spoke to me, and I passed his words on to you. This is what he said: **6** “I am the LORD your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery. **7** “You must not have any other god but me. **8** “You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind, or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. **9** You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations of those who reject me. **10** But I lavish unfailing love for a thousand generations on those who love me and obey my commands. **11** “You must not misuse the name of the LORD your God. The LORD will not let you go unpunished if you misuse his name. **12** “Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the LORD your God has commanded you. **13** You have six days each week for your ordinary work, **14** but the seventh day is a Sabbath day of rest dedicated to the LORD your God. On that day no one in your household may do any work. This includes you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, your oxen and donkeys and other livestock, and any foreigners living among you. All your male and female servants must rest as you do. **15** Remember that you were once slaves in Egypt, but the LORD your God brought you out with his strong hand and powerful arm. That is why the LORD your God has commanded you to rest on the Sabbath day. **16** “Honor your father and mother, as the LORD your God commanded you. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the LORD your God is giving you. **17** “You must not murder. **18** “You must not commit adultery. **19** “You must not steal. **20** “You must not testify falsely against your neighbor. **21** “You must not covet your neighbor’s wife. You must not covet your neighbor’s house or land, male or female servant, ox or donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor. **22** “The LORD spoke these words to all of you assembled there at the foot of the mountain. He spoke with a loud voice from the heart of the fire, surrounded by clouds and deep darkness. This was all he

said at that time, and he wrote his words on two stone tablets and gave them to me. **23** “But when you heard the voice from the heart of the darkness, while the mountain was blazing with fire, all your tribal leaders and elders came to me. **24** They said, ‘Look, the LORD our God has shown us his glory and greatness, and we have heard his voice from the heart of the fire. Today we have seen that God can speak to us humans, and yet we live! **25** But now, why should we risk death again? If the LORD our God speaks to us again, we will certainly die and be consumed by this awesome fire. **26** Can any living thing hear the voice of the living God from the heart of the fire as we did and yet survive? **27** Go yourself and listen to what the LORD our God says. Then come and tell us everything he tells you, and we will listen and obey.’ **28** “The LORD heard the request you made to me. And he said, ‘I have heard what the people said to you, and they are right. **29** Oh, that they would always have hearts like this, that they might fear me and obey all my commands! If they did, they and their descendants would prosper forever. **30** Go and tell them, “Return to your tents.” **31** But you stand here with me so I can give you all my commands, decrees, and regulations. You must teach them to the people so they can obey them in the land I am giving them as their possession.’” **32** So Moses told the people, “You must be careful to obey all the commands of the LORD your God, following his instructions in every detail. **33** Stay on the path that the LORD your God has commanded you to follow. Then you will live long and prosperous lives in the land you are about to enter and occupy.

6 1 “These are the commands, decrees, and regulations that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you. You must obey them in the land you are about to enter and occupy, **2** and you and your children and grandchildren must fear the LORD your God as long as you live. If you obey all his decrees and commands, you will enjoy a long life. **3** Listen closely, Israel, and be careful to obey. Then all will go well with you, and you will have many children in the land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you. **4** “Listen, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. **5** And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. **6** And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. **7** Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. **8** Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. **9** Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. **10** “The LORD your God will soon bring you into the land he swore to give you when he made a vow to your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. It is a land with large, prosperous cities that you did not build. **11** The houses will be richly stocked with goods you did not produce. You will draw water from cisterns you did not dig, and you will eat from vineyards and olive trees you did not plant. When you have eaten your fill in this land, **12** be careful not to

forget the LORD, who rescued you from slavery in the land of Egypt. **13** You must fear the LORD your God and serve him. When you take an oath, you must use only his name. **14** “You must not worship any of the gods of neighboring nations, **15** for the LORD your God, who lives among you, is a jealous God. His anger will flare up against you, and he will wipe you from the face of the earth. **16** You must not test the LORD your God as you did when you complained at Massah. **17** You must diligently obey the commands of the LORD your God—all the laws and decrees he has given you. **18** Do what is right and good in the LORD’s sight, so all will go well with you. Then you will enter and occupy the good land that the LORD swore to give your ancestors. **19** You will drive out all the enemies living in the land, just as the LORD said you would. **20** “In the future your children will ask you, ‘What is the meaning of these laws, decrees, and regulations that the LORD our God has commanded us to obey?’ **21** “Then you must tell them, ‘We were Pharaoh’s slaves in Egypt, but the LORD brought us out of Egypt with his strong hand. **22** The LORD did miraculous signs and wonders before our eyes, dealing terrifying blows against Egypt and Pharaoh and all his people. **23** He brought us out of Egypt so he could give us this land he had sworn to give our ancestors. **24** And the LORD our God commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear him so he can continue to bless us and preserve our lives, as he has done to this day. **25** For we will be counted as righteous when we obey all the commands the LORD our God has given us.’

Luke 7:11 - 35

7 11 Soon afterward Jesus went with his disciples to the village of Nain, and a large crowd followed him. **12** A funeral procession was coming out as he approached the village gate. The young man who had died was a widow’s only son, and a large crowd from the village was with her. **13** When the Lord saw her, his heart overflowed with compassion. “Don’t cry!” he said. **14** Then he walked over to the coffin and touched it, and the bearers stopped. “Young man,” he said, “I tell you, get up.” **15** Then the dead boy sat up and began to talk! And Jesus gave him back to his mother. **16** Great fear swept the crowd, and they praised God, saying, “A mighty prophet has risen among us,” and “God has visited his people today.” **17** And the news about Jesus spread throughout Judea and the surrounding countryside. **18** The disciples of John the Baptist told John about everything Jesus was doing. So John called for two of his disciples, **19** and he sent them to the Lord to ask him, “Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?” **20** John’s two disciples found Jesus and said to him, “John the Baptist sent us to ask, ‘Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?’” **21** At that very time, Jesus cured many people of

their diseases, illnesses, and evil spirits, and he restored sight to many who were blind. **22** Then he told John's disciples, "Go back to John and tell him what you have seen and heard—the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor."**23** And tell him, 'God blesses those who do not turn away because of me.' "

24 After John's disciples left, Jesus began talking about him to the crowds. "What kind of man did you go into the wilderness to see? Was he a weak reed, swayed by every breath of wind? **25** Or were you expecting to see a man dressed in expensive clothes? No, people who wear beautiful clothes and live in luxury are found in palaces. **26** Were you looking for a prophet? Yes, and he is more than a prophet. **27** John is the man to whom the Scriptures refer when they say, 'Look, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, and he will prepare your way before you.' **28** I tell you, of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John. Yet even the least person in the Kingdom of God is greater than he is!" **29** When they heard this, all the people—even the tax collectors—agreed that God's way was right, for they had been baptized by John. **30** But the Pharisees and experts in religious law rejected God's plan for them, for they had refused John's baptism. **31** "To what can I compare the people of this generation?" Jesus asked. "How can I describe them? **32** They are like children playing a game in the public square. They complain to their friends, 'We played wedding songs, and you didn't dance, so we played funeral songs, and you didn't weep.' **33** For John the Baptist didn't spend his time eating bread or drinking wine, and you say, 'He's possessed by a demon.' **34** The Son of Man, on the other hand, feasts and drinks, and you say, 'He's a glutton and a drunkard, and a friend of tax collectors and other sinners!' **35** But wisdom is shown to be right by the lives of those who follow it. "

Psalms 68:19 - 35

68 19 Praise the Lord; praise God our savior! For each day he carries us in his arms. Interlude **20** Our God is a God who saves! The Sovereign LORD rescues us from death. **21** But God will smash the heads of his enemies, crushing the skulls of those who love their guilty ways. **22** The Lord says, "I will bring my enemies down from Bashan; I will bring them up from the depths of the sea. **23** You, my people, will wash your feet in their blood, and even your dogs will get their share!" **24** Your procession has come into view, O God— the procession of my God and King as he goes into the sanctuary. **25** Singers are in front, musicians behind; between them are young women playing tambourines. **26** Praise God, all you people of Israel; praise the LORD, the source of Israel's life. **27** Look, the little tribe of Benjamin leads the way. Then comes a great throng of rulers from Judah and all the rulers of Zebulun and Naphtali. **28** Summon your

might, O God. Display your power, O God, as you have in the past. **29** The kings of the earth are bringing tribute to your Temple in Jerusalem. **30** Rebuke these enemy nations— these wild animals lurking in the reeds, this herd of bulls among the weaker calves. Make them bring bars of silver in humble tribute. Scatter the nations that delight in war. **31** Let Egypt come with gifts of precious metals ; let Ethiopia bring tribute to God. **32** Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth. Sing praises to the Lord. Interlude **33** Sing to the one who rides across the ancient heavens, his mighty voice thundering from the sky. **34** Tell everyone about God's power. His majesty shines down on Israel; his strength is mighty in the heavens. **35** God is awesome in his sanctuary. The God of Israel gives power and strength to his people. Praise be to God!

Proverbs 11:29 - 31

11 29 Those who bring trouble on their families inherit the wind. The fool will be a servant to the wise. **30** The seeds of good deeds become a tree of life; a wise person wins friends. **31** If the righteous are rewarded here on earth, what will happen to wicked sinners?