

“Why Keeping God’s Word Matters”
Deuteronomy 26:16-19

I. God is building a people who will acknowledge His Son as Lord and worship Him in spirit and truth (vs. 16-19).

A. God must be worship by first coming and receiving Him.

B. God then must be worshiped by obeying Him.

(Leviticus 1:2-4; 7:15-18; 22:17-21; 26:11-12; John 4:24; Ephesians 1:13-14; 1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Timothy 4:3-4; 3:14-15; 2 Peter 2:1-2; Revelation 21:3)

II. Keeping God’s word is a characteristic of God’s people (vs. 16-17).

A. God gave His people His word.

B. God requires for His people to follow the teaching of His word.

C. Professing Christ as your Lord is professing to live obediently to His word.

(Genesis 26:4-5; Deuteronomy 11:1, 13; 19:9; 1 Kings 8:61; Daniel 9:4-5; John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 14; 1 Corinthians 7:19; 1 John 2:3-6; 3:21-24; 5:2-3; Revelation 12:17; 14:12)

III. Holiness is the fruit of keeping God’s word (vs. 18-19).

A. God’s people are His possession to use for His glory.

B. Following God’s word will set His people apart from all the other nations.

(Exodus 19:5-6; Leviticus 19:1-2; Deuteronomy 4:5-8; 2 Corinthians 4:7-11; 1 Peter 1:14-16; Revelation 3:8-9)

Scripture References and Notes

¹¹ I will set My tabernacle among you, and My soul shall not abhor you. ¹² I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people.

Revelation 21:3

And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God.

John 4:24

God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

Ephesians 1:13-14 (NASB)

¹³ In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Leviticus 1:2-4

² “Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘When any man of you brings an offering to the LORD, you shall bring your offering of animals from the herd or the flock. ³ If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer it, a male without defect; he shall offer it at the doorway of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the LORD. ⁴ He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, that it may be accepted for him to make atonement on his behalf.

Leviticus 7:15-18

¹⁵ ‘Now *as for* the flesh of the sacrifice of his thanksgiving peace offerings, it shall be eaten on the day of his offering; he shall not leave any of it over until morning. ¹⁶ But if the sacrifice of his offering is a votive or a freewill offering, it shall be eaten on the day that he offers his sacrifice, and on the next day what is left of it may be eaten; ¹⁷ but what is left over from the flesh of the sacrifice on the third day shall be burned with fire. ¹⁸ So if any of the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings should *ever* be eaten on the third day, he who offers it will not be accepted, *and* it will not be reckoned to his *benefit*. It shall be an offensive thing, and the person who eats of it will bear his *own* iniquity.

Leviticus 22:17-21

¹⁷ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁸ “Speak to Aaron and to his sons and to all the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘Any man of the house of Israel or of the aliens in Israel who presents his offering, whether it is any of their votive or any of their freewill offerings, which they present to the LORD for a burnt offering— ¹⁹ for you to be accepted—*it must be* a male without defect from the cattle, the sheep, or the goats. ²⁰ Whatever has a defect, you shall not offer, for it will not be accepted for you. ²¹ When a man offers a sacrifice of peace offerings to the LORD to fulfill a special vow or for a freewill offering, of the herd or of the flock, it must be perfect to be accepted; there shall be no defect in it.

2 Peter 2:1-2 (NASB)

¹ But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. ² Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned...

1 Timothy 4:1

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons...

2 Timothy 4:3-4

³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

2 Timothy 3:14-15

¹⁴You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*, ¹⁵and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 26:4-5

⁴I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give your descendants all these lands; and by your descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; ⁵because Abraham obeyed Me and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws.”

Deuteronomy 11:1

“You shall therefore **love the LORD your God**, and always keep His charge, His statutes, His ordinances, and His commandments.

Deuteronomy 11:13

“It shall come about, if you listen obediently to my commandments which I am commanding you today, **to love the LORD your God** and to serve Him with all your heart and all your soul...

Deuteronomy 19:9

...if you carefully observe all this commandment which I command you today, **to love the LORD your God**, and to walk in His ways always—then you shall add three more cities for yourself, besides these three.

1 Kings 8:61

Let your **heart therefore be wholly devoted to the LORD our God**, to walk in His statutes and to keep His commandments, as at this day.”

Daniel 9:4-5

⁴I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed and said, “Alas, O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments, ⁵we have sinned, committed iniquity, acted wickedly and rebelled, even turning aside from Your commandments and ordinances.

1 John 5:2-3

²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. ³For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.

Revelation 12:17

So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

Revelation 14:12

Here is the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.

John 14:15

“If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

John 14:21

He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.”

John 14:23-24

²³ Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. ²⁴ He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s who sent Me.

John 15:10

If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.

John 15:14

You are My friends if you do what I command you.

1 Corinthians 7:19

Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but *what matters is* the keeping of the commandments of God.

1 John 2:3-6

³ By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴ The one who says, “I have come to know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; ⁵ but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: ⁶ the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

1 John 3:21-24

²¹ Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²² and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight. ²³ This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us. ²⁴ The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

Exodus 19:5-6

⁵ Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine. ⁶ And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These *are* the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.”

Deuteronomy 4:5-8

⁵ “Surely I have taught you statutes and judgments, just as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should act according to *them* in the land which you go to possess. ⁶ Therefore be careful to observe *them*; for this *is* your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, ‘Surely this great nation *is* a wise and understanding people.’ ⁷ “For what great nation *is there* that has God *so* near to it, as the LORD our God *is* to us, for whatever *reason* we may call upon Him? ⁸ And what great nation *is there* that has *such* statutes and righteous judgments as are in all this law which I set before you this day?”

Deuteronomy 30:11 (NASB)

“For this commandment which I command you today is not too difficult for you, nor is it ^[q]out of reach.

2 Corinthians 4:7-11

⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

⁸ *We are* hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; *we are* perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— ¹⁰ always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. ¹¹ For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

Revelation 3:8-9

⁸ I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, **have kept My word**, and have not denied My name. ⁹ Indeed I will make *those* of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie--indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you.