

The Shema

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**These are the Testimonies and Obligations
of the people observing the Covenant of Israel**

Deuteronomy 6 thru 13

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Shema - Testimonies and Obligations of Deuteronomy-6

The LORD our God is one LORD.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.

Teach the commandments, statutes, and judgments, diligently to your children, and talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

Bind them for a sign upon your hand, and they shall be as symbols between your eyes.

Inscribe them upon the doorposts of your house, and on your gates.

Revere only the Lord your God and worship only him, and swear only by His name.

You shall not follow other gods, of the gods of the people around you, lest the anger of the Lord your God be kindled against you, and destroy you from the face of the earth.

You shall not tempt or disrespect the LORD your God.

Diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has delivered to you.

Do that which is right and good in the sight of the LORD; that it may be well with you.

Cast out all your enemies from before you, as the LORD has spoken.

When your children ask you in time to come, saying: What are the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD our God has commanded?

Then you shall say: The Hebrews were slaves in Egypt, and the LORD brought them out of Egypt with a mighty hand.

And the LORD showed great and wondrous signs and destruction upon the Pharaoh and all of the Egyptians, before the eyes of the Hebrews.

He freed the slaves, and brought them to the land which he promised by oath, to give to the children of Abraham.

And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to revere the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is at this day.

And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us.

Shema - Testimonies and Obligations of Deuteronomy-7

When God brings you to land where you possess it, and has cast out many mightier than you; and God delivers them before you; you shall utterly destroy them, you shall make no covenant with them, nor show mercy to them.

Neither shall you make marriages with them; your daughter shall not go to his son, nor his daughter shall go to your son.

For they will turn your son from following the LORD, to serve other gods; then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and destroy you suddenly.

But thus shall you deal with them; you shall destroy their altars, break down their images, cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire.

For you are holy to the Lord your God; he has chosen you to be special to himself, above all people on the face of the earth.

Know that the LORD is the faithful God, which keeps covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations, and repays them that hate him to their face, to destroy them.

Therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, and do them.

It shall come to pass, if you hearken to the judgments, and keep, and do them, that the Lord your God shall keep the covenant and mercy which he swore.

He will love and bless you, and multiply you; he will bless the womb, and the land.

You shall be blessed above all people; there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle.

And the LORD will take away all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases which upon you; but will lay them upon all them that hate you.

You shall consume all people that the LORD delivers; your eye shall have no pity upon them, neither shall you serve their gods; for that will be a snare to you.

You shall not be afraid of them; but remember what the LORD did to Pharaoh, and to all Egyptians.

The graven images of their gods shall burn with fire; you shall not desire the silver or gold on them or take it to you, lest you be snared; for it is an abomination to the Lord your God.

Neither shall you bring an abomination into your house, lest you be a cursed thing like it; but you shall utterly detest it, and you shall utterly abhor it; for it is a cursed thing.

Shema-Testimonies and Obligations of Deuteronomy-8

When you have eaten and are full, then you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land, which he has given you.

Beware that you do not forget to keep his commandments, judgments, and statutes.

Lest when you have eaten and are full, and have built houses, and dwell there, and herds and flocks multiply, and silver and gold is multiplied.

And all that you have is multiplied, then your heart is lifted up, and you forget the LORD.

And you say in your heart, the power and might of my hand has given me this wealth.

It shall be, if you do forget the LORD, and follow, serve, and worship other gods, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish.

As the nations which the LORD destroyed before your face, so shall you perish; because you would not be obedient unto the voice of the LORD your God.

Shema-Testimonies and Obligations of Deuteronomy-10

And now, what does the LORD require of you, but to revere the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD with all heart and soul.

You must keep the commandments and statutes for your good.

Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the LORD's; the earth also in all that there is.

Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be not stiff-necked.

For the LORD your God is God supreme, and Lord supreme, the great, the mighty, and awesome God, which regards not persons, nor takes a reward.

He does execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and friend of the stranger, in giving him food and raiment.

Therefore befriend the stranger, for you were once strangers.

You shall revere the LORD; him shall you serve, and only to him shall you cleave, and swear by His name.

Shema-Testimonies and Obligations of Deuteronomy-11

And it shall come to pass, if you hearken diligently to my commandments, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.

That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain; that you may gather in the corn, and the wine, and the oil.

And I will send grass in the fields for the cattle; that you may eat and be full.

Take heed that your heart is not deceived, and you turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them, and then the LORD's wrath is kindled against you.

Therefore lay up these words in your heart and soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they are as symbols between your eyes.

Teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

And write them on the doorposts of your house, and on your gates; that your days may be multiplied.

Behold a blessing and a curse.

A blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God.

And a curse, if you will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way commanded you, to go after other gods.

Shema-Testimonies and Obligations of Deuteronomy-12

These are the statutes and judgments to do in the land, which the Lord your God of your fathers gives, all the days that you live upon the earth.

You shall utterly destroy all the places where other nations served their gods; on the high mountains, and the hills, and under every green tree.

And you shall overthrow their altars, and break their pillars, and burn their groves with fire; hew down the graven images of their gods, and destroy the names of them out of that place.

You shall not do so to the LORD your God.

But the place that the LORD your God shall choose to put his name; even to his habitation you shall seek, and there you shall come.

And there you shall bring your offerings, and sacrifices, and tithes, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and flocks.

And there you shall eat before the LORD your God, and rejoice in all that you put your hand to, you and your households, where the LORD has blessed you.

There shall be a place which the LORD your God shall choose to cause his name to dwell, where you shall bring all that I command you; your offerings, sacrifices, tithes, heave offerings, and all your choice vows which you vow to the LORD.

Take heed that you offer not burnt offerings in every place that you see.

But in the place that the LORD shall choose; and there you shall do all that I command.

You may kill and eat flesh in all gates, whatever your soul lusts after, according to the blessing of the LORD which he gave; the unclean and the clean may eat there.

Only you shall not eat the blood; you shall pour it upon the earth as water.

You may not eat within your gates the tithe of corn, or wine, or oil, or the firstlings of herds or flock, nor any of your vows which you vowed, nor freewill offerings, or heave offering.

But you must eat them before the LORD in the place which the LORD shall choose; you and your son, and daughter, and manservant, and maidservant, and the Levite that is within the gates; and you shall rejoice before the LORD in all that you put your hands to.

Take heed that you forsake not the Levite as long as you live on the earth.

When God enlarges your border, as he has promised, you shall say: My soul longs to eat flesh; you may eat flesh, whatever your soul lusts after.

If the place that God has chosen to put his name is too far from you, then you shall eat in your gates what ever your soul lusts after.

Even when the roebuck and hart are eaten, you shall eat them; the unclean and the clean shall eat of them alike.

Only be sure that you eat no blood: for the blood is the life; and you may not eat the life with the flesh.

You shall not eat the blood; you shall pour it on the earth as water.

You shall not eat it; that it may go well with you and your children, when you shall do that which is right in the sight of the LORD.

Only the holy things which you have, and your vows, shall you take to the place that the LORD shall choose.

You shall offer burnt offerings, flesh and blood, on the altar of the LORD; and the blood of sacrifices shall be poured on the altar of God, and you shall eat the flesh.

Observe and hear all which I command you, that it may go well with you and your children for ever, when you do what is good and right in the sight of God.

When God cuts off the nations, when you go to possess them and you succeed them, and dwell in their land;

Take heed that you are not snared to following them; and that you do not enquire how these nations served their gods; if so, I will do likewise.

Every abomination to the LORD, which he hates, they have done to their gods; even their sons and their daughters, they have burned in fire to their gods.

Everything I command you, observe it and do it; you shall not add to, nor diminish from it.

Shema-Testimonies and Obligations of Deuteronomy-13

If a prophet arises among you, or a dreamer of dreams, and gives you a sign or wonder.

And the sign comes to pass in what he spoke to you saying: Let us go after other gods which you have not known, and let us serve them.

You shall not hear the words of that prophet or dreamer; for the LORD your God proves and tests you, to know whether you love God with all your heart and soul.

You shall walk after the LORD and revere him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and you shall serve him, and cleave only to him.

And that prophet or dreamer shall be put to death; because he has spoken to turn you away from God, to thrust you out of the way which God commanded you to walk, and so shall you put the evil away from your midst.

If your brother, or son, or daughter, or wife, or friend, entices you secretly, saying: Let us go to serve other gods, which you have not known.

Namely; the gods of the people round about you; close, or far off, from the one end of the earth to the other end.

You shall not consent to him, or hear him; neither shall your eye pity him, neither shall you spare or conceal him.

But you shall surely kill him; your hand shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterwards the hand of all the people.

You shall stone him with stones, because he has sought to thrust you away from God.

And all Israel shall hear, and fear, and do no more of such wickedness as this among you.

If you hear in one of the cities;

Certain men have gone to serve other gods, which you have not known.

Then you shall enquire, and search, and ask diligently; and if it is true and certain that such abomination is wrought among you;

You shall surely smite the inhabitants of that city with the sword, destroying it utterly, and all that is there, and the cattle with the sword.

And you shall gather all the spoil of it to the midst of the street, and burn the city, and all the spoil for the LORD your God; and it shall be a heap forever; it shall not be built again.

And there shall cleave nothing of the cursed things to your hand; that the LORD may turn from the fierceness of his anger, and show you mercy, and have compassion, and multiply you, as he has sworn to your fathers.

For you have hearkened to the voice of God, to keep all his commandments, to do that which is right in the eyes of the Lord your God.

End of Shema-Testimonies and Obligations Verses