

Va'etchanan (and I pleaded) Torah Portion 45 Deut. 3:23-7:11

Background: Moses had begun to recount Israel's history in the wilderness in the previous Torah portion. This is a continuation of that speech. The book of Deuteronomy was written during the last five weeks of Moses' life. In this Torah portion Moses tells of pleading with Elohim to allow him to enter the land and the following events.

Va'etchanan (Va-eck-a-non) (**וַאֲתַחֲנֶן**) = **and I pleaded**

Events in this Torah portion:

- Moses recounts pleading with **יהוה** to allow him to cross the Jordan to see the land.
- Moses was told to command Joshua and give him resolve to lead the people
- Moses tells the second generation to not add or take away from the word
- Moses points out that the people who cling to **יהוה** are still alive this day
- Moses recounts the giving of the 10 commandments and the Covenant at Mount Sinai
- Moses warned the people not to make an idol
- Moses said **יהוה** was angry with him because of the people, he would not enter the land
- Moses said the people would later turn to idols and be scattered to the nations
- **Moses said when you are distressed in the end of days** you will return to **יהוה** when you seek Him with all your heart
- Has any people ever heard the voice of Elohim and lived or has He ever taken a people for Himself out of another nation with signs and wonders?
- Moses set aside three cities of refuge east of the Jordan River
- Moses recounts the giving of the Ten Commandments again
- Moses is given the Commandment (singular) and the decrees and ordinances
- The Shema is given
- Israel shall not allow their children to marry those not under the Covenant
- You shall break down their altars and smash their pillars and carved images
- Israel is a treasured people above all the people of the earth
- **יהוה** safeguards the Covenant for those who love Him and observe His commandments
- **יהוה** repays His enemies in their lifetime

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Moses asks to be able to go into the Promised Land

Deuteronomy 3:23-29 And I sought יהוה at that time, saying, 24 O יהוה, You have begun to show Your servant Your greatness, and Your strong hand: for what god is there in heaven or in earth, that can do according to Your works, and according to Your mighty acts? 25 Let me go over, I ask You, and see this good land that is beyond Jordan, that goodly mountain, and Lebanon. 26 But יהוה was angry with me for your sakes, and did not listen to me: and יהוה said to me, Let it be enough; speak no more to me of this matter. 27 Get up to the top of Pisgah, and lift up your eyes westward, and northward, and southward, and eastward, and behold with your eyes: for you shall not go over this Jordan. 28 But charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him: for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which you shall see. 29 So we abode in the valley over against Beth-peor.

Implored (sought) = one of ten terms for prayer, bend, stoop, entreat (s#02603 חנן) (khaw-naw')

Cross (go over) = cross over, transition (s#05674 עבר) (aw-bar')

this good Mountain = a reference to the Temple Mount (s#02022 ההר) (har)

Lebanon = whiteness, wooded mountains on northern border of Israel (s#03844 לבנון) (leb-aw-nohn')

Speak no more = cease, do not continue (s#03254 יסף) (yaw-saf')

Pisgah = a cleft, mountain east of Jordan river (s#06449 פסגה) (pis-gaw')

The root word for Pisgah is pa-sag

Pa-sag = to pass between or within (s#06448 פסג) (pa-sag')

Bethpeor = house of cliff, east of Jordan River (s#01047 בית פעור) (bayth peh-ore')

Peor = a gap, cliff, mountain East of Jordan River, false god's name (s#06473 פעור) (peh-ore')

Westward = Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea, Dead Sea, Sea, Nile River, westward, roar (s#03220 ים) (yam')

Northward = northward, hide, to hoard, reserve, to protect (s#06845 צפון) (tsaw-pan')

Southward = the south, right hand of person facing east, (s#08486 תימן) (tay-mawn')

Eastward = sunrise, east, (s#04217 מזרח) (miz-rawkh')

Stone Edition Chumash (page 959) "**Let it suffice thee** or **It is too much for you**" or "**There is so much for you**" meaning his reward in the world to come was very great, much more than just going to see the land. We know that Moses' reward will be great because he followed Elohim's commands more than anyone other than Messiah. He failed to follow Elohim's direction in the matter of striking the rock. We on the other hand have failed Elohim more times than we can count.

Comment: westward, northward, southward and eastward East is given last, it is normally given first, it may be that this is a veiled reference to this land being part of Israel only in the end

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times when Messiah returns. If Moses was standing on a mountain east of the Jordan, then he would not see any land that was to be given to Israel to the east of him. It could also be a veiled reference to the fact that we will only turn to the east, the ancient ways of יהוה, after we have gone every other way. We will only return to the East or ancient ways, at the end of days.

יהוה Elohim Gives Statutes and Judgments for our good

Deuteronomy 4:1-8 Now therefore listen, O Israel, to the **statutes** and to the **judgments**, which I teach you, for you to do *them*, that you may live, and go in and possess the land which יהוה Elohim of your fathers gives you. 2 You shall not **add** to the word which I command you, neither shall you **diminish** from it, that you may keep the commandments of יהוה your Elohim which I command you. 3 Your eyes have seen what יהוה did because of Baalpeor: for all the men that followed **Baalpeor**, יהוה your Elohim has destroyed them from among you. 4 But you that did cleave to יהוה your Elohim *are* alive everyone of you this day. 5 Behold, I have taught you **statutes** and **judgments**, even as יהוה my Elohim commanded me, that you should do so **in the land** where you go to possess it. 6 Therefore Keep and do *them*; for this *is* your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation *is* a wise and understanding people. 7 For what nation *is there so* great, who *has* Elohim *so* near to them, as יהוה our Elohim *is* in all *things that we call on Him for?* 8 And what nation *is there so* great, that has **statutes** and **judgments so** righteous as all this Torah, which I set before you this day?

Statutes = enactment, appointment, commandment, custom, decree, law, ordinance, statute (s#02706 חק) (khole)

Judgments = a verdict, formal decree, divine law, judgment, ordinance, sentence (s#04941 משפט) (mish-pawt')

Not add = to Judaize, become Jewish (s#03254 יהד) (yaw-had') from (s#3061 יהואש) (yeh-ho-awsh')

Diminish = to scrape off, shave, remove, lessen, withhold, diminish, restrain, make small, withdraw (s#01639 גרע) (gaw-rah')

Baal-Peor = Lord of the gap, Moab deity (s#01187 בעל פעור) (bah'-al-peh-ore')

You should do in the Land - commands that are required to be kept inside the borders of Israel.

it is your Wisdom - It is true wisdom to follow Elohim's commands completely, this may look like foolishness to the world today, but it will not always be that way.

Comment: You can see what Elohim did to those who turned away from Him and turned to idol worship. They are all dead and gone. These commands of Elohim are your very life, not just a good thing to do. People today believe that if you just give a good try to follow Elohim you

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should be okay. Elohim has a much higher standard. He knows what is in your heart, which is more than we do. Having a warm fuzzy feeling about Elohim is not enough. You have to actually do what He says to live in His presence. **You who cling to יהוה your Elohim, you are all alive today** The words of יהוה are the words of life. If we only follow some of the commands or if we add other commands that we think are a good idea, then we have mixed life with death and the result is death. This is what Messiah was talking about in the sixth chapter of John. Messiah is the manna that came down from heaven to save us. He is the Word made flesh. We must eat it by obeying every part of it. It becomes part of us so that we will turn from sin. This is what He meant by saying we must eat His flesh (obey His commandments) and drink His blood (receive His life).

Related Scripture: The Word of יהוה is life

John 6:47-69 truly, truly, I say to you, He that believes on Me has everlasting life. 48 I am that bread of life. 49 Your fathers ate manna in the wilderness, and are dead. 50 **This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that a man may eat of it, and not die.** 51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man **eat of this bread, he shall live forever:** and the bread that **I will give is My flesh,** which I will give for the life of the world. 52 The Jews therefore argued among themselves, saying, How can this man give us *his* flesh to eat? 53 Then Yeshua said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Except you **eat the flesh** of the Son of man, and **drink His blood,** you have no life in you. 54 Whoever eats My flesh, and drinks My blood, **has eternal life;** and I will raise him up at the last day. 55 For My flesh is meat indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. 56 He that eats My flesh, and drinks My blood, dwells in Me, and I in him. 57 As the living Father has sent Me, and I live by the Father: so he that eats Me, even he shall live by Me. 58 This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers ate manna, and are dead: he that eats of this bread shall live forever. 59 These things He said in the synagogue, as He taught in Capernaum. 60 Many therefore of His disciples, when they had heard *this*, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it? 61 When Yeshua knew in Himself that His disciples murmured at it, He said to them, Does this offend you? 62 *What* and if you shall see the Son of man ascend up where He was before? 63 It is the spirit that quickens; the flesh profits nothing: **the words that I speak to you, they are spirit, and they are life.** 64 But there are some of you that believe not. For Yeshua knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. 65 And He said, Therefore I said to you, that no man can come to Me, except it were given to him of My Father. 66 From that *time* many of His disciples went back, and walked no more with Him. 67 Then Yeshua said to the twelve, Will you also go away? 68 Then Simon Peter answered Him, Adonai, to who shall we go? **You have the words of eternal life.** 69 And we believe and are sure that You are the Messiah, the Son of the living Elohim.

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יהוה Causes us to fear Him so that we will live

Deuteronomy 4:9-13 Only take heed to yourself, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things which your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life: but teach them to your sons, and your sons' sons; 10 *Specially* the day that you stood before יהוה your Elohim in Horeb, when יהוה said to me, Gather the people together, and I will make them hear My words, that they may learn to fear Me all the days that they shall live on the earth, and *that* they may teach their children. 11 And you came near and stood under the mountain; and the mountain burned with fire to the midst of heaven, with darkness, clouds, and thick darkness. 12 And יהוה spoke to you out of the midst of the fire: you heard the voice of the words, but saw no similitude; only *you heard* a voice. 13 And He declared to you His Covenant, which he commanded you to perform, *even* ten commandments; and he wrote them on two tables of stone.

Hear = to hear, be obedient, publish, understand (שמע) (shaw-mah')

Fear = primitive root; to fear; morally, to revere, to frighten, make afraid, dread, reverence (ירא) (yaw-ray')

Teach = to goad, to teach, instruct, learn (למד) (law-mad')

Learn to fear Me - no one will follow a god they do not fear. When problems come they will do what they want, not what they have been commanded. Problems come so that we and Elohim will see who we are really following.

Make them known to your children - Remember the **fear** you had when Elohim spoke to you from the mountain.

All this Torah - The wisdom of the Torah is only evident when it is seen and **obeyed in it's entirety**. We can't pick and choose what commands we want to obey or else we will be creating our own religion, based on our desires, not Elohim's will for all men.

Related Scripture: Seek to please Him

Psalms 26:2-3 Judge me, O יהוה; for I have walked in my integrity: I have trusted also in יהוה; therefore I shall not slide. 2: Examine me, O יהוה, and prove me; **try my reins and my heart**. 3: For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes: and I have walked in Your truth.

Related Scripture: His glory is above all

Psalms 29:1-11 Give to יהוה, O you mighty, give to יהוה glory and strength. 2: Give to יהוה the glory due to His name; worship יהוה in the beauty of holiness. 3: The voice of יהוה is on the waters: the Elohim of glory thunders: יהוה is on many waters. 4: The voice of יהוה is powerful; the voice of יהוה is full of majesty. 5: The **voice of יהוה breaks the cedars**; yes, יהוה breaks the cedars of Lebanon. 6: He makes them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a

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young unicorn. 7: The voice of יהוה divides the flames of fire. 8: The voice of יהוה shakes the wilderness; יהוה shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. 9: The voice of יהוה makes the hinds (*deer*) to calve, and discovers the forests: and in His Temple does everyone speak of His glory. 10: יהוה sits on the flood; yes, יהוה sits King forever. 11: יהוה will give strength to His people; יהוה will bless His people with peace.

Comment: The Torah is unchanging like יהוה who wrote it. If we take away from it as many people do today, it cannot bring life. We do not have the option to pick and choose the commands that we feel are important or the right to add commands to the word as **Rabbi have over the centuries**. Both of these practices lead to the judgment of יהוה. If you say trite expressions like "God knows my heart" and expect Him to change His commands to fit your life style, you will be sadly disappointed. We also know from Scripture that the heart is wicked and impossible to know.

Related Scripture: heart is deceitful

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

The Sages say the Torah is composed of black fire and white fire

Black fire - the words on the page

White fire - the white part of the page, the explanation (not the word of Elohim)

Make no graven images

Deuteronomy 4:14-19 And יהוה commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that you might do them in the land where you go over to possess it. 15 Therefore Take heed to yourselves; for you saw no manner of similitude on the day *that* יהוה spoke to you in Horeb out of the midst of the fire: 16 Lest you corrupt *yourselves*, and make a graven image, the similitude of any figure, the likeness of male or female, 17 The likeness of any beast that *is* on the earth, the likeness of any winged fowl that flies in the air, 18 The likeness of anything that creeps on the ground, the likeness of any fish that *is* in the waters beneath the earth: 19 And lest you lift up your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun, and the moon, and the stars, *even* all the host of heaven, should be driven to worship them, and serve them, which יהוה your Elohim has divided to all nations under the whole heaven.

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If you worship idols you will be cast out of the land

Deuteronomy 4:20-28 But יהוה has taken you, and brought you forth out of the **iron furnace**, *even* out of Egypt, to be to Him a people of inheritance, as *you are* this day. 21 Furthermore יהוה was angry with me for your sakes, and swore that I should not go over Jordan, and that I should not go into that good land, which יהוה your Elohim gives you *for* an inheritance: 22 But I must die in this land, I must not go over Jordan: but you shall go over, and possess that good land. 23 Take heed to yourselves, lest you forget the Covenant of יהוה your Elohim, which He made with you, and make a **graven image**, *or* the likeness of anything, which יהוה your Elohim has forbidden you. 24 For יהוה your Elohim *is* a consuming fire, *even* a jealous Elohim. 25 When you shall beget children, and children's children, **and will have been long** in the land, and shall corrupt *yourselves*, and make a graven image, *or* the likeness of anything, and shall do evil in the sight of יהוה your Elohim, to provoke Him to anger: 26 I call **heaven** and **earth** to witness against you this day, that you shall soon utterly perish from off the land where you go over Jordan to possess it; you shall not prolong *your* days on it, but shall utterly be **destroyed**. 27 And יהוה shall **scatter** you among the nations, and you shall be left **few** in number among the heathen, where יהוה shall lead you. 28 And there you shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.

Iron = iron as cutting, iron implement (s#01270 ברזל) (bar-zel') (where we get the name Brazil, a country with great Iron deposits)

Furnace = to dig,through, a pot or furnace (s#03564 כור) (kooor)

Graven Image = idol, carved image (s#06459 פסל) (peh'-sel)

Heaven = to be lofty, visible arch containing clouds, location of stars, heaven (s#08064 שמים) (shaw-mah'-yim)

Earth = to be firm, the earth, country, ground (s#0776 ארץ) (eh'-rets)

Destroyed = to desolate, destroy, overthrow, perish (s#08045 שמד) (shaw-mad')

Scatter = to dash to pieces, to disperse, cast abroad, drive, retire, scatter (s#06327 פוצ) (poots)

Few= an adult, full length, a man, few (s#04962 מת) (math)

Related Scripture: יהוה will scatter Israel throughout the world

Hosea 1:1-11 The word of יהוה that came to Hosea, the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king

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of Israel. 2 The beginning of the word of יהוה by Hosea. And יהוה said to Hosea, Go, take to you a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land has committed great whoredom, *departing* from יהוה. 3 So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim; which conceived, and bare him a son. 4 And יהוה said to him, Call his name Jezreel; for yet a little *while*, and I will avenge the blood of Jezreel on the house of Jehu, and will **cause to cease the kingdom of the house of Israel**. 5 And it shall come to pass at that day, that I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel. 6 And she conceived again, and bare a daughter. And Elohim said to him, Call her name Loruhamah: for **I will no more have mercy on the house of Israel; but I will utterly take them away**. 7 But I will have mercy on the house of Judah, and will save them by יהוה their Elohim, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, by horses, nor by horsemen. 8 Now when she had weaned Loruhamah, she conceived, and bare a son. 9 Then said Elohim, Call his name Loammim: for **you are not My people, and I will not be your Elohim**. 10 Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered and it shall come to pass, *that* in the place where it was said to them, *You are not My people*, *there* it shall be said to them, *You are the sons of the living Elohim*. 11 Then shall the children of Judah and the children of Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great *shall be* the day of Jezreel.

Related Scripture: Forget the Torah - Children will not be protected

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you, that you shall be no priest to Me: seeing **you have forgotten the Torah of your Elohim, I will also forget your children**.

Stone Edition Chumash (page 963) Deuteronomy 4:25

and will have been long (ונושנתם) The gamatra of this word is

(ס=40) + (ת=400) + (נ=50) + (ש=300) + (ו=6) + (נ=50) + (ו=6) = 852

The Sages find in this word an allusion to Jewish history (southern kingdom). The numerical value is 852, the number of years that Judah would be in the land before the prophecy of destruction would be fulfilled. But Elohim was compassionate and exiled Judah two years before that dreaded promise could go into effect. (Rashi) The Temple was built 480 years after the Exodus (I Kings 6:1) which was 440 years after they entered the land and it stood for 410 years for a total of 850 years (Rashi to Daniel 9:14) Accordingly, Ramban interprets this prophecy as an allusion to the destruction of the Temple and the Babylonian Exile.

Comment: Moses was not allowed to cross the Jordan and enter the land because he was angry with the people and he disobeyed יהוה's command to speak to the rock. We must be careful to not allow others who are not obeying Torah to provoke us to anger and we disobey Torah. If it can happen to Moses it certainly can happen to us.

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Ten Declarations... two stone Tablets - Elohim not only wrote the commandments in a scroll that would decay and no longer exist, He wrote it on stone as permanent for all time commands that we are to live by forever. This did not change when Messiah came.

Related Scripture: Heaven and Earth will pass away before the Torah

Matthew 5:17-20 Think not that I am come to destroy the Torah, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. 18 For truly I say to you, **Till heaven and earth pass**, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the Torah, till all be fulfilled. 19 **Whoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven:** but whoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I say to you, That except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

In the Land - some of the decrees are only to be kept in the land of Israel

Many will return to Him in the Tribulation

Deuteronomy 4:29-31 But if from there you shall seek **יהוה** your Elohim, you shall find *him*, if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul. 30 When you are in **tribulation**, and all these things are come on you, *even* in the **latter days**, if you turn to **יהוה** your Elohim, and shall be obedient to His voice; 31 (For **יהוה** your Elohim *is* a merciful Elohim;) he will not forsake you, neither destroy you, nor forget the Covenant of your fathers which He swore to them.

Tribulation = a tight place, fig. that is trouble, also a pebble, an opponent (as crowding) adversary, afflicted, anguish, close, distress, enemy, flint, foe, narrow, small, sorrow, strait, tribulation, trouble (s#06862 **צַר**) (tsar)

Latter days = the last or end, hence the future, end time, length, posterity, remnant, reward (s#0319 **אַחֲרֵית**) (akh-ar-eeth')

Iniquity = perversity, evil, fault, iniquity, mischief, punishment, sin (s#05771 **עוֹן**) (aw-vone')

Related Scripture: End of Days Our Sins forgiven, we are Redeemed

Isaiah 44:24 Remember these, O Jacob and Israel; for you *are* My servant: I have formed you; you *are* My servant: O Israel, you shall not be forgotten of Me. 22 **I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, your transgressions,** and, as a cloud, **your sins: return to Me**; for I have redeemed you. 23 Sing, O you heavens; for **יהוה** has done *it*: shout, you lower parts of the earth: break forth into singing, you mountains, O forest, and every tree: **for יהוה has redeemed Jacob,** and glorified Himself in Israel. 24 This says **יהוה**, your redeemer, and He that formed you from the womb, I *am* **יהוה** that makes all *things*; that stretched forth the heavens alone; that spread abroad the earth by Myself;

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Comment: Messiah tells us that Israel will be cast out for their many sins, but He will not forget us forever. Messiah has blotted out our sins by placing them on Himself. The sins we have committed have returned to Him. He paid the price for the sins of Israel. We see from the many signs that we are near the end of days and many are now returning to the whole Word of Elohim, knowing that from Genesis to Revelations it is all true and the entire Scripture is written to Israel and those who are joined to Israel.

Stone Edition Chumash (page 965) According to Sages Sforno and Yalkut the term "**End of Days**" refers to the period of time just before the coming of Messiah. They further state that Moses refers to this time again in **Deuteronomy 30:1-2**. Daniel also referred to it as the "**End of Days**" in **Daniel 12:4, 6, 9, 13**.

Related Scripture: End of Days

Deuteronomy 30:1-2 And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come on you, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before you, and **you shall call them to mind among all the nations, where יהוה your Elohim has driven you**, 2 And shall return to יהוה your Elohim, and shall obey His voice according to all that I command you this day, you and your children, with all your heart, and with all your soul;

Related Scripture: End of Days

Daniel 12:4 But you, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, *even* to the **time of the end**: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased. 5 Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river. 6 And *one* said to the man clothed in linen, which *was* on the waters of the river, How long *shall it be* to the **end of these wonders**? 7 And I heard the man clothed in linen, which *was* on the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him that lives forever that *it shall be* for a **time, times, and a half**; and when He shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these *things* shall be finished. 8 And I heard, but I did not understand: then I said, O Adonai, what *shall be* the end of these *things*? 9 And He said, Go your way, Daniel: for the words *are* closed up and sealed till the **time of the end**. 10 Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand. 11 And from the time *that* the daily *sacrifice* shall be taken away, and the abomination that makes desolate set up, *there shall be* a thousand two hundred and ninety days. 12 Blessed *is* he that waits, and comes to the thousand three hundred and thirty five days. 13 But go your way till the end: for you shall rest, and stand in your lot at the **end of the days**.

Comment: We see in verse thirty that tribulation will come in the later days and we are turning to follow the Torah. The number of people who are turning to follow the commandment is growing by leaps and bounds all over the world. This is confirming that the times we are living in is the latter days. Fifty years ago the only people keeping the commandments was our Jewish brothers. We see that many signs of things that are happening in the world confirms our belief that we are approaching the end. There is a great division of those who are seeking to obey

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Torah and the other group who hate the ways of יהוה are getting laws passed that will allow them to live a perverse lifestyle.

Signs of the End Times

Daniel 9:9-14 To Adonai our Elohim *belong* mercies and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him; 10 Neither have we obeyed the voice of יהוה our Elohim, to walk in His Torah, which He set before us by His servants the prophets. 11 Yes, all Israel have transgressed Your Torah, even by departing, that they might not obey Your voice; therefore the curse is poured on us, and the oath that *is* written in the Torah of Moses the servant of Elohim, because we have sinned against Him. 12 And He has confirmed His words, which He spoke against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing on us a great evil: for under the whole heaven has not been done as has been done on Jerusalem. 13 As *it is* written in the Torah of Moses, all this evil is come on us: yet made we not our prayer before יהוה our Elohim, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand Your truth. 14 Therefore has יהוה watched on the evil, and brought it on us: for יהוה our Elohim *is* righteous in all His works which He does: for we obeyed not His voice.

Curse = curse, cursing, execration, oath, swearing (S# 0423 אלה) Pronounced “aw-lah”

This Hebrew word is pronounced like the name of the god of Islam

Daniel 9:11 says that because we have not kept the commandments of our Creator and have turned away from following His commandments a curse is poured out on us. This curse began on September 11, 2001 referred to as 9:11 when the World Trade Centers were destroyed by men who served “**alah**” Many churches opened their doors when this happened but the return to following God’s ways was short lived.

Related Scripture: The greatest nation has fallen

Revelations 18:1-5 And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. 2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, **Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen**, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. 3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are grown rich through the abundance of her delicacies. 4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, My people, that you be not partakers of her sins**, and that you receive not of her plagues. 5 For her sins have reached to heaven, and Elohim has remembered her iniquities. 6 Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double to her double according to her works: in the cup which she has filled fill to her double. 7 How much she has glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she said in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow. 8 Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong *is* the Adonai Elohim who judged her. 9 And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, 10

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Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! **for in one hour is your judgment came.**

This quick judgment sounds like an EMP attack that destroys all electrical devices. Also remember that only Jewish people left the 1st Babylon

יהוה your Elohim Speaks to the People from the mountain

Deuteronomy 4:32-40 For ask now of the days that are past, which were before you, since the day that Elohim created man on the earth, and *ask* from the one side of heaven to the other, whether there has been *any such thing* as this great thing *is*, or has been heard like it? 33 Did *ever* people hear the voice of Elohim speaking out of the midst of the fire, as you have heard, and live? 34 Or has Elohim assayed to go *and* take Him a nation from the midst of *another* nation, by temptations, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by a stretched out arm, and by great terrors, according to all that יהוה your Elohim did for you in Egypt before your eyes? 35 To you it was shown, that you might know that יהוה He *is* Elohim; *there is* none else beside Him. 36 Out of heaven He made you to hear His voice, that He might instruct you: and on earth He showed you His great fire; and you heard His words out of the midst of the fire. 37 And because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose **his offspring** after him, and brought you out in His sight with His mighty power out of Egypt; 38 To drive out nations from before you greater and mightier than you *are*, to bring you in, to give you their land *for* an inheritance, as *it is* this day. 39 Know therefore this day, and consider *it* in your heart, that יהוה He *is* Elohim in heaven above, and on the earth beneath: *there is* none else. 40 You shall keep therefore His decrees, and His commandments, which I command you this day, that it may go well with you, and with your children after you, and that you may prolong *your* days on the earth, which יהוה your Elohim gives you, forever.

He chose us and fought for us

Stone Edition Chumash (page 966) **his offspring (בן) - His Offspring** -This word is in the singular because it refers to Jacob, all whose offspring constitute Israel. Had the Torah said their offspring, it would have implied that Esau and Ishmael, were also chosen.

Comment: Never in all of history has there ever been another god who brought out a people from another nation and the people heard his voice. Only יהוה has done this. Also there has never been another people who lost their homeland and were scattered to the world but returned to their homeland two thousand years later. Only יהוה can do such a thing.

Related Scripture: Messiah led them out of Egypt

1 Corinthians 10:1-12 Moreover, brethren, I would not that you should be ignorant, how that **all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;** 2 And were all **baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;** 3 And did all eat the same spiritual food; 4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: **for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Messiah.** 5 But with many of them Elohim was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. 6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. 7 Neither be idolaters, as *were* some of

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them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. 8 Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day twenty three thousand. 9 Neither let us tempt Messiah, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. 10 neither murmur, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. 11 Now all **these things happened to them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, on who the ends of the world are come.** 12 Therefore let him that thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.

Related Scripture: Keep the Commandments

Matthew 5:10-19 Blessed *are* they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are you, when *men* shall revile you, and persecute *you*, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for My sake. 12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great *is* your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. 13 **You are the salt of the earth:** but if the salt has lost its savour, where shall it be salted? it is therefore good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. 14 **You are the light of the world.** A city that is set on an hill can not be hid. 15 Neither do men light a lamp, and put it under a bushel, but on a lamp stand; and it gives light to all that are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. 17 **Think not that I am come to destroy the Torah, or the prophets:** I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. 18 For truly I say to you, **Till heaven and earth pass,** one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the Torah, till all be fulfilled. 19 Whoever therefore shall break one of these **least commandments,** and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whoever shall do and teach *them,* the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Comment: We see in Deuteronomy 4:40 that we are told that we will prolong our days and be able to live long in the land if we keep His decrees and commandments. We see Messiah's words in Matthew chapter 5, that we are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world by keeping His commandments. How could anyone believe that we could be the salt (preserving) of the earth and the light (showing the direction to Elohim) of the world if we lived the same way the rest of the world lived. Messiah also told us **not to even think** that He was going to do away with the commandments. He said that the commandments would **be in effect until heaven and earth passed away.** We can look outside and see trees and the sun and be sure the commandments are not done away with. Even so most of those who attend worship services each Sunday believe that the commandments are no longer to be followed. What will it take to convince them of the words of Yeshua?

Moses appoints three Cities of Refuge east of the Jordan river

Deuteronomy 4:41-43 Then Moses divided three cities on this side Jordan toward the sunrising; 42 That the slayer might flee there, which killed his neighbor unawares, and did not hate him in times past; and that fleeing to one of these cities he might live: 43 *Namely,* Bezer in the wilderness, in the plain country, of the Reubenites; and Ramoth in Gilead, of the Gadites; and Golan in Bashan, of the Manassites.

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Comment: Moses set aside three cities of refuge east of the Jordan River. יהוה provided a place of safety for those living on the east side of the Jordan who had killed another by accident. These cities would be needed because the Jordan if it was flooded would prevent a person from reaching a city of refuge. Six cities were needed to make them close enough to all parts of Israel lest the avenger would overtake the one who had to flee.

Moses sets Testimonies, Statues and Judgments before the 2nd generation

Deuteronomy 4:44-49 And this *is* the law which Moses set before the children of Israel: 45 These *are* the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which Moses spoke to the children of Israel, after they came out of Egypt, 46 On this side Jordan, in the valley over against Bethpeor, in the land of Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt at Heshbon, who Moses and the children of Israel destroyed, after they came out of Egypt: 47 And they possessed his land, and the land of Og king of Bashan, two kings of the Amorites, which *were* on this side Jordan toward the sunrising; 48 From Aroer, which *is* by the bank of the river Arnon, even to Mount Sion, which *is* Hermon, 49 And all the plain on this side of Jordan eastward, even to the sea of the plain, under the springs of Pishgah.

Comment: These testimonies, decrees and ordinances were repeated to this new generation. These were the same ones given to the generation who had left Egypt. Since we have seen that Deuteronomy is the renewed Covenant, we see that it is the same as the Covenant made at Mount Sinai.

Related Scripture: יהוה does not change

Malachi 3:6-7 For I *am* יהוה, I **change not**; therefore you sons of Jacob are not consumed. 7 Even from the days of your fathers you are gone away from My ordinances, and have not kept *them*. Return to Me, and I will return to you, says יהוה of hosts. But you said, Wherein shall we return?

The Terms of the New Covenant are given

Deuteronomy 5:1-5 And Moses called all Israel, and said to them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that you may learn them, and keep, and do them. 2 יהוה our Elohim made a Covenant with us in Horeb. 3 יהוה made not this Covenant with our fathers, but with us, *even* us, who *are* all of us here alive this day. 4 יהוה talked with you face to face in the mount out of the midst of the fire, 5 (I stood between יהוה and you at that time, to showed you the word of יהוה: for you were afraid by reason of the fire, and did not go up the mount;) saying,

Comment: Those of Israel who were under the age of twenty were not even alive at the time the Covenant that was given at Mount Sinai. Moses was instructing them all so that they would be equipped to battle the inhabitants of the land and not be tempted to turn away from Elohim's way of life. Also some of the ordinances were only to be kept in the land of Israel. We see that Moses called **all of Israel** to hear the decrees and ordinances. This could be a hint of a future time when the fullness of the gentiles be come in and they are instructed to keep all that יהוה had

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commanded through Moses. Moses makes it clear that the Covenant that they are making now is not the Covenant that was made with their parents at Mount Sinai. This is a New Covenant that will begin now but will not be sealed now. It will be sealed with the blood of Yeshua fifteen hundred years later.

Related Scripture: Moses and Messiah speak the same words

John 5:46-47 For had you believed Moses, you would have believed Me (*Yeshua*): for he wrote of Me. 47 But **if you do not believe his writings, how shall you believe My words?**

Deuteronomy 5:6-18 Ten Commandments with Parsha Breaks (ט)

I am **יהוה** your Elohim who has taken you out of the land of Egypt from the house of slavery 7. There shall not be unto you the gods of others in My presence. 8. You shall not make for yourself a statue nor any image of that which is in the heavens above or that which is on the earth below, or that which is in the water beneath the earth. 9. You shall not prostrate yourself to them nor shall you worship them, for I am **יהוה** your Elohim, a Elohim who is jealous who visits the sin of fathers upon children, upon the third (generation) and upon the fourth (generation) for My enemies 10. but Who acts with kindness for **thousands** (of generations) to those who love Me and to those who observe My commandments. ט 11. You shall not take the Name of **יהוה** your Elohim in vain for **יהוה** will not absolve anyone who takes His Name in vain.

ט 12. **Safeguard** the day of the Sabbath to sanctify it as **יהוה** your Elohim has commanded you. 13. Six days shall you labor and you shall do all your work; 14. but the seventh day is the Sabbath to **יהוה** your Elohim you may not do any work you, your son, your daughter, your slave, and your maidservant, your ox, your donkey, and all your animals, and your convert who is within your gates, so that rest shall your slave and your maidservant like you. 15. And you shall remember that a slave you were in the land of Egypt, and take you out did **יהוה** your Elohim, from there with a hand that is strong and an arm that is outstretched; therefore command you has **יהוה** your Elohim to observe the day of Sabbath. ט 16. Honor your father and your mother, as commanded you has **יהוה** your Elohim, so that lengthened will be your days and so that it will be good for you, upon the land that **יהוה** your Elohim gives to you. ט 17. You shall not kill; ט and you shall not commit adultery; ט and you shall not steal; ט and you shall not testify against your fellow testimony that is unfounded. ט 18. And you shall not covet the wife of your fellow; ט and you shall not desire the house of your fellow, his field, his slave, his maidservant, his ox, his donkey, or anything that belongs to your fellow. ט

Reference: Schottenstein Edition Interlinear Chumash (Deuteronomy) page 40-42

Note: English translations are Deuteronomy 5:6-21

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Thousands = a family, sense of yoking, ox's head, a thousand, first Hebrew letter (s#00505 אלף) (eh'-lef)

Moses recalls the fear the people had at the voice of יהוה

Deuteronomy 5:22-27 These words יהוה spoke to all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and He added no more. And He wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them to me. 23 And it came to pass, when you heard the voice out of the midst of the darkness, (for the mountain burned with fire,) that you came near to me, *even* all the heads of your tribes, and your elders; 24 And you said, Behold, יהוה our Elohim has showed us His glory and His greatness, and we have heard His voice out of the midst of the fire: we have seen this day that Elohim does talk with man, and he lives. 25 Now therefore why should we die? for this great fire will consume us: if we hear the voice of יהוה our Elohim any more, then we shall die. 26 For who *is there* of all flesh, that has heard the voice of the living Elohim speaking out of the midst of the fire, as we *have*, and lived? 27 You Go near, and hear all that יהוה our Elohim shall say: and you speak to us all that יהוה our Elohim shall speak to you; and we will hear *it*, and do *it*.

Comment: The **Sabbath is the sign** that we are in Covenant with יהוה. He has told us that if we love Him we will obey His commandments. We are not to do our own pleasure on that day and we are not to make others work on that day. Our focus changes on that day from the things of the world to things of the Kingdom. We are not to spend our time talking about things of the world or what we are going to do the following week. We are also not to buy or sell on the Sabbath. **Safeguard** (שמור) the Sabbath = Do not let anything come in that would desecrate it. We must guard it because it is the **sign of the Covenant** between יהוה and us. To not safeguard it is compared to taking off our wedding ring and pretending we are not married. We are to **Remember** that He created the Heavens and the earth in six days and rested on the Sabbath. If we fail to remember the Sabbath we are not proclaiming that He is the Creator.

Related Scripture: Sabbath Attitude

Isaiah 58:13,14 If you turn away your foot on the Sabbath, *from* doing your own pleasure on My holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of יהוה, honorable; and you shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking *your own* words: 14 Then you shall delight yourself in יהוה; and I will cause you to ride on the high places of the earth, and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father: for the mouth of יהוה has spoken *it*.

Related Scripture: Sabbath command is also given in Exodus

Exodus 20:8 Remember (זכור) the Sabbath day, to keep it holy

Related Scripture: We keep the commandments of those we love

John 14:15-17 If you love Me, keep My commandments. 16: And I will ask the Father, and

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He shall give you another Comforter, that He may be with you forever; 17: Even the Spirit of truth; who the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him, neither knows Him: but you know Him; for He dwells with you, and shall be in you.

Comment: Fear burns away rebellion: יהוה showed them His great power in order to prevent them from becoming casual with His commandments. No one will obey a god they do not fear. This is the problem that we have today. Most people have the wrong impression of who יהוה is. Most look at Him as a dotting old grandfather who asks you to do certain things but only pats you on the shoulder when you don't obey and says that's ok but try to do better next time. Messiah died to bring us back into the Kingdom, but most take it lightly and say "**God knows my heart.**" Yeshua does know our heart and that is not a good thing for us because it leaves us with no excuse. Grace is not cheap and it is not given to those who just don't want to obey. Judgment will come on those who don't take the commandments of our Creator seriously. He tells us to **keep them for they are our very life.**

We shall hear and we shall obey They had great faith and fear that they agreed to obey all that Elohim commanded them before they even heard it. They basically signed a blank check. The Covenant was made with those who were standing there and those who were not yet born. We and all people are under the same obligation to obey all that Elohim has commanded. We would be under the same obligation whether they had agreed or not since there is only one way of salvation, not through keeping commandments only but through following Yeshua. Salvation is a gift that is given to those who show they love Yeshua by keeping His commandments. Our rewards and our place in the kingdom will be determined by how well we kept His commandments. His bride will be composed of those who love Him (Keep His commandments). The fear of יהוה caused all of Israel to agree to do all that He said, however that fear was diminished in time and they rebelled against Moses His appointed leader. It is said that Israel had great faith when they agreed to do all that He said, but their resolve did not last. This speaks to us as we determine to be completely obedient to His word when we are in a crisis, but when things get better, we do not always comply.

Related Scripture: He knows my heart, (not good news for us)

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Related Scripture: Judgment comes to those who don't keep His Words

Leviticus 26:27-28 If despite this you will not heed Me, and you behave toward Me with casualness, 28 I will behave toward you with **fury of casualness**; I will chastise you, even seven ways for your sins

Related Scripture: Tree of life for those who keep the Commandments

Revelations 22:14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

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Related Scripture: We show our love for Messiah by Obedience

John 14:21 He that has My commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves Me: and he that loves Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him.

Related Scripture: Least and Greatest in the Kingdom

Matthew 5:19 Whoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the **least in the kingdom** of heaven: but whoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called **great in the kingdom** of heaven.

The people feared the voice of יהוה

Deuteronomy 5:28-33 And יהוה heard the voice of your words, when you spoke to me; and יהוה said to me, I have heard the voice of the words of this people, which they have spoken to you: they have said well all that they have spoken. 29 Oh that there were such a heart in them, that they would fear Me, and keep all My commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children forever! 30 Go say to them, Go into your tents again. 31 But as for you, stand here by Me, and I will speak to you all the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which you shall teach them, that they may do *them* in the land which I give them to possess. 32 You shall observe to do therefore as יהוה your Elohim has commanded you: you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. 33 You shall walk in all the ways which יהוה your Elohim has commanded you, that you may live, and *that it may be well with you*, and *that you may prolong your days* in the land which you shall possess.

The Covenant is given to prolong their lives

Deuteronomy 6:1-3 Now these *are* the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which יהוה your Elohim commanded to teach you, that you might do *them* in the land where you go to possess it: 2 That you might fear יהוה your Elohim, to keep all His statutes and His commandments, which I command you, you, and your son, and your son's son, all the days of your life; and that your days may be prolonged. 3 Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do *it*; that it may be well with you, and that you may increase mightily, as יהוה Elohim of your fathers has promised you, in the land that flows with milk and honey.

Comment: Keeping the commandments will preserve your life, meaning that you will live longer and your days will be blessed, meaning all your days will be enjoyable and after that you will live with Him in the kingdom.

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The Shema

Deuteronomy 6:4-13 Hear, O Israel: יהוה our Elohim יהוה is one : 5 And you shall love יהוה your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. 6 And these words, which I command you this day, shall be in your heart: 7 And you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up. 8 And you shall bind them for a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 **And you shall write them on the door posts of your house, and on your gates.** 10 And it shall be, when יהוה your Elohim shall have brought you into the land which He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you great and good cities, which you did not build, 11 And houses full of all good *things*, which you did not fill, and wells dug, which you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees, which you did not plant; when you shall have eaten and are full; 12 *Then* beware lest you forget יהוה, which brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. 13 You shall fear יהוה your Elohim, and serve Him, **and shall swear by His name.**

Are we to swear (make a vow) or not?

Deuteronomy 6:13 יהוה your Elohim shall you fear, Him shall you serve, and in His Name shall you swear.

Comment: We have always heard that we are not to swear at all. In fact the King James translation of Matthew says exactly that. We know that Yeshua does not contradict the Father, so what is the answer to this seemingly apparent contradiction? Let's first look at the King James translation of Matthew 5:33-37 and then look at the Shem-Tob copy of Matthew in Hebrew. This copy of Matthew from the fourteenth century appears in its original language, Hebrew. This text has been translated into English by George Howard in His book titled "**Hebrew Gospel of Matthew**" printed by Mercer University Press.

Related Scripture: To swear or not to swear

Matthew 5:33-37 (King James) Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord (*Adonai*) thine oaths: 34 But I say unto you, **Swear not at all**; neither by heaven; for it is God's (*Elohim's*) throne: 35 Nor by the earth; for it is His footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. 36 Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. 37 But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

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Related Scripture: To swear or not to swear

Matthew 5:33-37 (George Howard's) Again you have heard what was said to those of long ago: you shall not swear by My name **falsely**, but you shall return to the Lord your oath. 34 But I say to you **not to swear in vain** in any matter, neither by heaven because it is the throne of God, 35 nor by earth because it is the footstool of his feet, nor by (Jerusalem) because it is the city of God, 36 nor by your head for you are not able to make one hair white or black. 37 But let your words be yes or no no. Everything in addition to this is evil.

Comment: Verse 33 contains the phrase "You have heard what was said to those of long ago" or the King James Version "**Ye have heard** that it hath been said by them of old time." This is a phrase that is pointing to the commandments of men or the Oral Torah. The commandments of well known religious leaders were considered to be equal to the commandments of **יהוה**. Often these commandments actually contradicted the Torah. The Rabbi have added to the commandments and Christians have taken away the commandments. What Messiah was saying was that men had given rules about taking a vow that did not agree with the Torah. He was saying that taking a vow is a very serious thing. You must fulfill the vows you make. You are not required to take a vow, but if you take one to another person or to **יהוה** you must do what you have vowed. He was also saying not to take a false vow. Deuteronomy 6:13 tells us we are to take a vow in **יהוה** name. A person would say "As **יהוה** lives, this is true", or "As **יהוה** lives I will do so and so." This is a very serious thing and should never be taken lightly, because if what you said was not true then you have joined **יהוה** to a lie and doing that has severe consequences. If Messiah had said "It is written" then we would know that He was talking about the Torah. The Shem-Tob copy of Matthew makes it clear that we are **not to swear falsely**.

Related Scripture: Men adding commandments

Matthew 15:7-9 You hypocrites, well did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying, 8 This people draws near to Me with their mouth, and honors Me with *their* lips; but their heart is far from Me. 9 But **in vain they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.**

Related Scripture: Taking foolish oaths and linking them to יהוה

Matthew 23:16-22 Woe to you, **you blind guides**, which say, Whoever shall swear by the Temple, it is nothing; but whoever shall swear by the gold of the Temple, he is a debtor! 17 *You* fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the Temple that sanctifies the gold? 18 And, Whoever shall swear by the Altar, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gift that is on it, he is guilty. 19 *You* fools and blind: for which *is* greater, the gift, or the Altar that sanctifies the gift? 20 Who therefore shall swear by the Altar, swears by it, and by all things on it. 21 And who shall swear by the Temple, swears by it, and by Him that dwells there. 22 And he that shall swear by heaven, swears by the Throne of Elohim, and by Him that sits on the Throne.

Va'etchanan (and I pleaded) Torah Portion 45 Deut. 3:23-7:11

Jot and Tittle: Matthew 5:17-19 : Think not that I am come to destroy the Torah, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. 18 For truly I say to you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the Torah, until all is fulfilled. 19 Whoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men to, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. (ref. **Monty Judah Lion Lamb Ministries**)

Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear O Israel: יהוה our-Elohim, יהוה is One.

Shema Israel יהוה Eloheinu, יהוה echad

שמע ישראל יהוה אלהינו יהוה אחד

The enlarged ayin & dalet form the word "ED" (עד) = Witness

Ayin (ע) is a picture of an eye, Dalet (ד) is a picture of a door

Related Scripture: The Eye and the Door

Exodus 12:23 For יהוה will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when He sees (eye) the blood on the lintel, and on the two side posts (door), יהוה will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in to your houses to strike you. The Witness is when the destroyer sees the Lamb's blood on the door of our lives we will not die but live with יהוה forever. Life comes through the shed blood of Yeshua.

Related Scripture: The first of all Commandments

Mark 12:28-31 And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, Which is the first commandment of all? 29 And Yeshua answered him, The first of all the commandments is, **Hear, O Israel; יהוה Eloheinu, יהוה echad**: 30 And you shall love יהוה your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength: this is the first commandment. 31 And the second is like, *namely* this, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

Related Scripture: We Shall be Witnesses

Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and **you shall be witnesses** to Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and to the uttermost part of the earth.

Va'etchanan (and I pleaded) Torah Portion 45 Deut. 3:23-7:11

Related Scripture: Witness to the World

Matthew 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations; and then shall the end come.

Related Scripture: We are Witnesses

Acts 10:38-44 How Elohim anointed Yeshua of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for Elohim was with Him. 39: And we are **witnesses** of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; who they killed and hanged on a tree: 40: Him Elohim raised up the third day, and showed Him openly; 41: Not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before of Elohim, even to us, who did eat and drink with Him after He arose from the dead. 42: And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to **testify** that it is He which was ordained of Elohim to be the Judge of quick and dead. 43: To Him give all the prophets witness, that through His name whoever believes in Him shall receive remission of sins. 44: While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all them which heard the word.

Comment: Deuteronomy 6:9 tells us that יהוה requires us to write certain Scriptures on our door posts and on our gates to remind us to be careful to keep the commandments. The way this has been done by Jewish people, and now those of us who understand that we must keep His commandments if we are to be in Covenant with our Messiah and Creator, is to put these two Scriptures in a small box called a mezuzah and attach it to the door of our house and gates of our property. These small boxes are normally around three inches high and one half inch wide. They are attached to the door post and gates using glue, or nails or screws. The front of the box normally has the letter shin (ש) as in the name Shaddai (שדי). The custom when entering or leaving the house is to kiss the fingers of your right hand and then place the kiss on the mezuzah. This is to remind us to keep the commandments and remember the Scripture that is inside the box. The two Scriptures placed in the mezuzah are Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and Deuteronomy 11:13-21.

Related Scripture: Our children should inherit our lifestyle as well

Proverbs 13:22 A good *man* leaves an inheritance to his children's children: and the **wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.**

Va'etchanan (and I pleaded) Torah Portion 45 Deut. 3:23-7:11

Scripture placed in the Mezuzah

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 Hear, O Israel: יהוה our Elohim יהוה is one : 5 And you shall love יהוה your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. 6 And these words, which I command you this day, shall be in your heart: 7 And you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up. 8 And you shall bind them for a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 **And you shall write them on the posts of your house, and on your gates.**

Deuteronomy 11:13-21 And it shall come to pass, if you shall hearken diligently to My commandments which I command you this day, to love יהוה your Elohim, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, 14 That I will give *you* the rain of your land in its due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, and your wine, and your oil. 15 And I will send grass in your fields for your cattle, that you may eat and be full. 16 Take heed to yourselves, that your heart is not deceived, and you turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them; 17 And *then* יהוה's wrath be kindled against you, and He shut up the heaven, that there is no rain, and that the land does not yield her fruit; and *lest* you perish quickly from off the good land which יהוה gave you. 18 Therefore shall you lay up these My words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign on your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. 19 And you shall 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. 20 **And you shall write them on the door posts of your house, and on your gates:** 21 That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which יהוה swore to your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven on the earth.

All your heart Let the desire for Elohim be the controlling force of your life.

All your soul Let your devotion to Elohim be greater than your will to survive

Teach them to your children.

Speak of them when you go to bed (say the Shema)

Speak of them when you wake up (say the Shema)

Bind them as a sign on your arms and as a sign between your eyes (Tefillin)

Write them on the doorposts of your house and your gates (Mezuzah)

Va'etchanan (and I pleaded) Torah Portion 45 Deut. 3:23-7:11

Do not go after other elohim (false gods) or יהוה will destroy you

Deuteronomy 6:14-19 You shall not go after other elohim, of the gods of the people which *are* around you; 15 (For יהוה your Elohim *is* a jealous Elohim among you) lest the anger of יהוה your Elohim be kindled against you, and destroy you from off the face of the earth. 16 You shall not tempt יהוה your Elohim, as you tempted *Him* in Massah. 17 You shall diligently keep the commandments of יהוה your Elohim, and His testimonies, and His statutes, which He has commanded you. 18 And you shall do *that which is* right and good in the sight of יהוה: that it may be well with you, and that you may go in and possess the good land which יהוה swore to your fathers, 19 To cast out all your enemies from before you, as יהוה has spoken.

When your sons ask what do these Testimonies Statutes and Judgments mean

Deuteronomy 6:20-25 And when your son asks you in time to come, saying, What do these testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments mean, which יהוה our Elohim has commanded you? 21 Then you shall say to your son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and יהוה brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand: 22 And יהוה showed signs and wonders, great and terrible, on Egypt, on Pharaoh, and on all his household, before our eyes: 23 And he brought us out from there, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he swore to our fathers. 24 And יהוה commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear יהוה our Elohim, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as *it is* at this day. 25 And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before יהוה our Elohim, as He has commanded us.

Comment: We as believers in Messiah must not think that remembering the exodus is something that only the Jewish people can do. Paul tells us in the I Corinthians chapter 10, that everyone who follows Messiah has a connection back to the Exodus. These verses are part of the Scriptures that are in the Passover Haggadda

Related Scripture: Even our Fathers came out of Egypt

1 Corinthians 10:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I would not that you should be ignorant, how that **all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;** 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat; 4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Messiah.

Va'etchanan (and I pleaded) Torah Portion 45 Deut. 3:23-7:11

Related Scripture: We former gentiles are of the seed of Abraham

Galatians 3:29 And if you *are* Messiah's, then are you Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

The Four Sons and the Four Questions of Passover (Deuteronomy 6:20)

The Four Sons: The Torah commands us to tell our children about the Exodus from Egypt. Four times the Torah repeats: "And you shall tell your child on that day....." From this we can infer that what is called "The Four Sons" example illustrates four attitudes toward יהוה's salvation as revealed in Exodus and the Passover Seder.

The Wise Son: The wise son asks "What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees and laws יהוה our Elohim has commanded?" **Our Answer:** It is the wise one who wants to be instructed in what יהוה has commanded us to do concerning Passover. We must instruct him in all that he has questions about. Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning.

The Wicked Son: The wicked son asks, "What does this service mean to you?" **Our Answer:** Because of the way in which he says "to you," he excludes himself from the community. He is to be told, "This is done because of what יהוה my Elohim did for me when I went out of Egypt; had you been in Egypt with that attitude, you would not have been redeemed." The wicked responds to יהוה's offer of salvation by Yeshua by considering it to be for others, rejecting it without considering the Scriptures. The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." Salvation is far from the wicked, for they do not seek out Your decrees.

The Innocent Son: The innocent son, one not set in his ways, asks, "What does this mean?" **Our Answer:** To the person of open simplicity, give a straightforward answer: The Torah of יהוה makes wise the simple." He is to be told of the power and goodness of יהוה's deliverance, "With a mighty hand יהוה brought us out of Egypt." He also needs to hear of the power and goodness of יהוה's salvation through faith in Messiah.

The Unknowledgeable Son: The son who doesn't know what to ask. **Our Answer:** To the son who does not know what to ask we must instruct him in the basic understanding of the bondage that we were under, in the land of Egypt and how יהוה delivered us and brought us to freedom. He must also be instructed in our condition of bondage to sin and death until Messiah saved us and gave us freedom in Him.

Va'etchanan (and I pleaded) Torah Portion 45 Deut. 3:23-7:11

Deuteronomy 7:1-6 When יהוה your Elohim shall bring you into the land where you go to possess it, and has cast out many nations before you, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you; 2 And when יהוה your Elohim shall deliver them before you; you shall strike them, *and* utterly destroy them; you shall make no covenant with them, nor show mercy to them: 3 Neither shall you make marriages with them; your daughter you shall not give to his son, nor his daughter shall you take to your son. 4 For they will turn away your son from following Me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of יהוה be kindled against you, and destroy you suddenly. 5 But in this way shall you deal with them; you shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire. 6 For you *are* a holy people to יהוה your Elohim: יהוה your Elohim has chosen you to be a special people to Himself, above all people that *are* on the face of the earth.

Comment: This is exactly what is happening today. They made a covenant with death and given away the Gaza strip in exchange for peace and now they have missiles being launched at them from there every day. Now President Obama has said that they must give up the West bank and that the Palestine state must be formed and that it must have contiguous borders, meaning that these two area's must be joined, which would cut the nation of Israel in half. You can not negotiate with those who have vowed that they will kill you. Making agreements with Moslem's today is the way they take over a country. They have taken over sections of England and other European countries that are governed completely by their laws and police are not allowed to enter these areas. This same method is now being used in America. This is the same method that Esau used to take over Mount Seir in the book of Genesis.

יהוה Loved you because of the oath to your fathers

Deuteronomy 7:7-11 יהוה did not set his love on you, nor choose you, because you were more in number than any people; for you *were* the fewest of all people: 8 But because יהוה loved you, and because He would keep the oath which He had sworn to your fathers, יהוה brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. 9 Know therefore that יהוה your Elohim, he *is* Elohim, the faithful Elohim, which keeps Covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations; 10 And repays them that hate Him to their face, to destroy them: He will not be slack to him that hates Him, He will repay him to his face. 11 You shall therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which I command you this day, to do them.

Va'etchanan (and I pleaded) **Torah Portion 45 Deut. 3:23-7:11**

Comment: יהוה tells us that He has chosen us not because we are smart or any other reason, only that He loved us. His Covenant with us is dependent on our keeping His commandments. The thousand generations with each generation lasting forty years, would be forty thousand years. We normally think of a seven thousand year plan of Elohim, where the last thousand year period is the reign of Messiah. The only way that this could be a seven thousand year period is for a generation to be seven years which does not make sense. There is more to learn from this verse.