

THE WOW FACTOR

Deuteronomy 4:1-8



HEAR AND REMEMBER

A Journey through the book of

DEUTERONOMY

19 JUL	The Wow Factor	4:1-8
26 JUL	Remember	4:32-40
2 AUG	Hear, O Israel	6:1-9
9 AUG	Taken	7:6-11
16 AUG	No Pity	7:16-26
23 AUG	Every Day with Jesus	8:1-10
6 SEP	Do Not Forget	8:11-20
13 SEP	For Your Own Good	10:12-22
20 SEP	Eyes on the Prize	28:1-4
27 SEP	Derailed	28:15-25;58-62
4 OCT	Choose	30:11-20
18 OCT	I Will Proclaim	32:1-4

“And now...”

Everything that Moses said in chapter 4 is not delivered in a vacuum but finds its context in the past experience of the Israelites (see Deuteronomy 1-3).

Hear the Word of God

1 And now, O Israel, **listen to** the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you.

Hear and Remember

1 And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you.

Who God is – He is the God who gives

Remember:

It means to act according to what we know of God.

Q: Does the knowledge of God in our heads translate to reality in our hearts and our actions?

Be faithful to the Word of God

2 You **shall not add** to the word that I command you, **nor take from it**, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you.

“During Christ ministry, the Pharisees added to the word of God hundreds of prohibitions which were not contained in canonical Scripture.

In the same period, the Sadducees subtracted from the word the things they found unacceptable – anything about the supernatural, the doctrine of resurrection, angels and spirits.”

3 Your eyes have seen **what the Lord did at Baal-peor**, for the Lord your God destroyed from among you all the men who followed the Baal of Peor.

4 But you who held fast to the Lord your God are all alive today.

Numbers 25:1-2

“While Israel lived in Shittim, the people began to whore with the daughters of Moab. These invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods.”

3 Your eyes have seen what the Lord did at Baal-peor, **for the Lord your God destroyed from among you all the men who followed the Baal of Peor.**

4 **But you who held fast to the Lord your God are all alive today.**

Contrast between the path of life and the path of death (see Deut. 30:15-20)

Wowed by the Word of God

5 See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the Lord my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.

6 Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’

“As Israel drew near the promised land, Moses reminded them that their real purpose in that land was to serve as representatives of their God.

They could, by their behavior and devotion, appeal to the hearts of their neighbors; or, by their spiritual laxity and disobedience, they could abandon such a noble purpose and be drawn into useless and destructive pursuits.”

The Wow Factor – God's Idea

- **Covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12:2-3)**
- **Israel is to be a light to the nations (Isaiah 49:6)**
- **The Church is to be a light to the world (Matthew 5:14-16)**

The Wow Factor – Presence of God

7 For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is to us, whenever we call upon him?

The Wow Factor – Righteous Laws

8 And what great nation is there, that has **statutes and rules so righteous** as all this law that I set before you today?