



**Taken!**

Deuteronomy 7:6-11

# 3-point Recap

- **The Wow Factor** - to live in accordance to what we know of God (choosing the path of life), based on His faithfulness
- **Remember** - God's awesomeness should inspire us to be faithful to Him
- **Hear, O Israel** - God's commands are instructions for us to live a life of faithfulness (not blind obedience) which is good for us

# Context of Chapter 7

- Caution against all friendship & fellowship with idols & idolaters after victories
- Those who are in communion with God must not be in any way related to the works of darkness
- Text for today' s message highlight key reasons why God forbids such unholy relations

**6** For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession. **7** The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. **8** But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. **9** Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments. **10** But those who hate him he will repay to their face by destruction; he will not be slow to repay to their face those who hate him. **11** Therefore, take care to follow the commands, decrees and laws I give you today.

**~ Deuteronomy 7:6-11 ~**

**6** For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession.

- Holy - separated unto, reserved for
- Taken by God, with a covenant & communion established between Him & His people
- *Segullah* (Hebrew) - precious and desirable thing above others

7 The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples.

- Set - to fix or bind (permanence)
- God' s choice was not due to numbers or strength of Israel
- Smallness of numbers vs bigness of God' s grace
- Nothing to do with 'us' . Can never lay claim to deeds.
- God chooses us because He wants us to be in a holy relationship with Him, not because we had done great deeds

8 But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

- God has chooses because of reasons only known to Himself
- Requires activation of faith and not just intellect to reason about His choice
- It is not an act of logic but of love
- God not a debtor to His people, but to His own promises
- Uses lineage to show his unending faithfulness to generation upon generation

**2** When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. **3** For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. **4** Since you are precious and honoured in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. **5** Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west.

**~ Isaiah 43:2-5 ~**



# God's love for the Gentiles (Parables from Luke 15)

- **Lost sheep** - will leave the 99 to look for the 1
  - **Lost coin** - not content to settle with 90%
  - **Lost son(s)** - abundance of grace
- > each of us are so precious that God would not settle just because He has the majority. And even if we are led astray due to our own folly, He extends Himself to recover us.

**9** But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

**10** Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**~ 1 Peter 2:9-10 ~**

**9** Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

- Know - not simply of knowledge (head) but of passionate response/action (heart)
- He is God alone
- Our appropriate response to his choosing is to love Him and keep his commandments
- God chooses to invite His people by kindness than to compel them to obedience from terror (John Calvin)

**10** But those who hate him he will repay to their face by destruction; he will not be slow to repay to their face those who hate him.

- Wilful sinner are God-haters
- Detrimental consequences for those who turn against Him
- They cannot hurt God but themselves
- Reap destruction in this generation, not next

11 Therefore, take care to follow the commands, decrees and laws I give you today.

- Following God' s laws a natural response of His great love for us. Not out of fear or compulsion.
- No negativity
- It is for our own good

# Life Lessons

1. Know (head + heart) that we are deeply loved by God, who wants to have a holy relationship with us.
2. Love the Lord our God with all our heart, mind and strength in response to being undeservingly loved by God
3. Turn away from sinful behaviour that displeases God and hurt ourselves.