



Pastor Doug Wilson · BETHANY - A PLACE OF NEW BEGINNINGS
September 26, 2021 • Eighth in a series of messages on FINDING A LIFE VERSE

Let's scan the 66 books of the Bible for a potential Life Verse...together!

1. WHY DID GOD GIVE US SO _____ ?

DEUTERONOMY 6:20-21, 23-25 (TNIV)

²⁰ In the future, when your children ask you,
"What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees and laws
the LORD our God has commanded you?" ²¹ tell them:

*"We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt,
but the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand.*

²³ But he brought us OUT from there to bring us IN
and give us the land

that he *promised* on oath to our ancestors [GEN. 17:7-8].

²⁴ The LORD commanded us to *obey* all these decrees
and to *fear the LORD our God*,
so that we might always prosper and BE KEPT ALIVE,
as is the case today.

²⁵ And if we are careful to obey all this law
before the LORD *our* God, as he has commanded us,
that will be our righteousness."

- Rules aren't the _____ thing God gave us.
- _____ & _____ were the first things He gave us.
- Yet the Rules themselves were a _____ ! A new, life-giving way of living.
- The Rules _____ of Relationship... v. 20, they come from
"the LORD *our* God"; GEN. 17:7-8 & EX. 6:6-8, "I will be *your* God"; LEV. 11:45,
"I...brought you up out of Egypt to be *your* God"; DEUT. 4:20 NLT, "the LORD rescued
you from the iron-smelting furnace of Egypt in order to make you his very own people
and his special possession, which is what you are today."

- ...and _____ us _____ Relationship. v. 24, "to fear the LORD *our* God";
v. 25, "we...obey...before the LORD *our* God"
- Obedience to God's instructions result in _____ ! v. 24, "so that we might...
be kept alive"!
- Obedience to God's instructions is our _____
to all of God's good gifts! v. 25, "if we are careful to obey all this law before the
LORD our God, as he has commanded us, *that will be our RIGHTEOUSNESS.*"

CHRISTOPHER WRIGHT: "the point of the father's whole answer is that obedience to the law is the only right response to the saving acts of such a God as Yahweh.... Our *righteousness* is the obedient response that flows from the gratitude of those enjoying liberty, life, & well-being as God's gift."
CHRISTOPHER J.H. WRIGHT, *Deuteronomy* [UBC], p. 103.

2. GOD WANTS US TO _____ WHAT HE HAS TAUGHT US.

DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9 (TNIV)

⁴ HEAR, O ISRAEL: THE LORD *OUR* GOD, THE LORD IS ONE.

⁵ LOVE THE LORD *YOUR* GOD

WITH *ALL* YOUR HEART AND WITH *ALL* YOUR SOUL
AND WITH *ALL* YOUR STRENGTH.

⁶ THESE COMMANDMENTS THAT I GIVE YOU TODAY
ARE TO BE ON YOUR HEARTS.

⁷ Impress them on your children.

Talk about them when you sit at home
and when you walk along the road,
when you lie down and when you get up.

⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands
and bind them on your foreheads.

⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses
and on your gates.

- God asks for our _____, exclusive _____ to Him.
- God wants our obedience to come "from the _____".

CHRISTOPHER WRIGHT: "The first misconception is that OT law was a matter of legalistic conformity to an external code. On the contrary, Deuteronomy 6:6 is part of a strong stream of OT teaching that calls for the internalizing of the law in the heart, i.e., at the center of a person's mind, will, and character (cf. 4:9; 10:16; 11:18; Jer. 4:4; 31:33; Ezek. 18:31; 36:26f.) CHRIS WRIGHT 100.

DANIEL BLOCK: "on the actual internalization of the will of God in the hearts of believers, see Psa. 37:31, 40:8, 119:11; Isa. 51:7." DANIEL I. BLOCK, *Deuteronomy* [NIVAC] 184.

"I desire to do your will, my God;
your law is within my heart."
PSALM 40:8 (NIV) — see also HEBREWS 10:5!

- God asks that we _____ and _____ share what
He has taught us with the generations to come. C. WRIGHT: "from breakfast to bedtime"!

3. GOD _____ US TO _____ US.

DEUTERONOMY 8:2-5 (TNIV)

² **REMEMBER** how the LORD your God **led you** all the way
in the wilderness these forty years,
to **humble** and **TEST you**
in order TO KNOW WHAT WAS IN YOUR HEART,
whether or not you would keep his commands.

³ He **humbled** you, causing you to **hunger**
and then **feeding** you with manna,
which neither you nor your ancestors had known,
to TEACH you that people do not live on bread alone
but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

⁴ Your clothes did not wear out
and your feet did not swell during these forty years.

⁵ ***Know then in your heart that***
as a man DISCIPLINES his son,
so the LORD your God DISCIPLINES you.