

Deuteronomy 27:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses and the priests the Levites spake unto all Israel, saying, Take heed, and hearken, O Israel; this day thou art become the people of the LORD thy God.

Analysis

And Moses and the priests the Levites spake unto all Israel, saying, Take heed, and hearken, O Israel; this day thou art become the people of the LORD thy God. The joint address by Moses and the priests the Levites demonstrates unified leadership - both civil and religious authorities corporately call Israel to covenant commitment. This models the integration of all societal spheres under God's authority.

The exhortation take heed, and hearken demands attentive listening with intent to obey. Hearing God's word requires focused attention and responsive action, not casual listening without application.

The declaration this day thou art become the people of the LORD thy God marks covenant renewal as decisive moment. Israel's corporate identity is redefined - they belong to God as His special possession, which creates obligation to reflect His character.

This covenant formation language echoes the Sinai covenant while marking renewal for the second generation. Each generation must personally embrace covenant relationship, not merely inherit it passively.

Historical Context

This address occurred on the plains of Moab as final preparation before entering Canaan. The first generation died in wilderness judgment; this second generation needed to personally commit to covenant faithfulness their fathers violated.

The emphasis on 'this day' created decisive moment for corporate commitment paralleling individual conversion experiences.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What does unified civil and religious leadership teach about comprehensive submission to God?
2. How does 'take heed and hearken' define proper response to God's word?
3. What does belonging to God as His people obligate believers to do?
4. Why must each generation personally embrace covenant relationship rather than inherit it passively?
5. How does corporate identity as God's people shape individual behavior?

Interlinear Text

וַיֹּדֶבֶר	מֹשֶׁה	וְהַכֹּהֲנִים	הַלְוִיִּם	אֶל	כָּל	יִשְׂרָאֵל
spake	And Moses	and the priests	the Levites	H413	H3605	O Israel
H1696	H4872	H3548	H3881			H3478
לֵאמֹר	הִסָּפֵתוּ	וּשְׁמַעוּ	יִשְׂרָאֵל	הַיּוֹם	הַזֶּה	נָהְיָ יָתְּ
saying	Take heed	and hearken	O Israel	this day	H2088	thou art become
H559	H5535	H8085	H3478	H3117		H1961
לְעַם	לַיהוָה	אֱלֹהֶיךָ:				
the people	of the LORD	thy God				
H5971	H3068	H430				

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