

Deuteronomy 4

Chapter 4 of 34 · 49 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Call to Obedience

¹ Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you.

² Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

³ Your eyes have seen what the LORD did because of Baal-peor: for all the men that followed Baal-peor, the LORD thy God hath destroyed them from among you.

⁴ But ye that did cleave unto the LORD your God are alive every one of you this day.

⁵ Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.

⁶ Keep therefore 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 hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for?

⁸ And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?

⁹ Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;

10 Specially the day that thou stoodest before the LORD thy God in Horeb, when the LORD said unto me, Gather me 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 upon the earth, and that they may teach their children.

11 And ye came near and stood under the mountain; and the mountain burned with fire unto the midst of heaven, with darkness, clouds, and thick darkness.

12 And the LORD spake unto you out of the midst of the fire: ye heard the voice of the words, but saw no similitude; only ye heard a voice.

13 And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone.

14 And the LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go over to possess it.

Warning Against Idolatry

15 Take ye therefore good heed unto yourselves; for ye saw no manner of similitude on the day that the LORD spake unto you in Horeb out of the midst of the fire:

16 Lest ye corrupt yourselves, and make you 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 flieth in the air,

18 The likeness of any thing that creepeth on the ground, the likeness of any fish that is in the waters beneath the earth:

19 And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the LORD thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven.

20 But the LORD hath taken you, and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, even out of Egypt, to be unto him a people of inheritance, as ye are this day.

21 Furthermore the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, and sware that I should not go over Jordan, and that I should not go in unto that good land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance:

22 But I must die in this land, I must not go over Jordan: but ye shall go over, and possess that good land.

23 Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which the LORD thy God hath forbidden thee.

24 For the LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God.

25 When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt yourselves, and make a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the LORD thy God, to provoke him to anger:

26 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed.

27 And the LORD shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the LORD shall lead you.

28 And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.

29 But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

30 When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, even in the latter days, if thou turn to the LORD thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;

31 (For the LORD thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them.

32 For ask now of the days that are past, which were before thee, since the day that God created man upon the earth, and ask from the one side of heaven unto the other,

whether there hath been any such thing as this great thing is, or hath been heard like it?

33 Did ever people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live?

34 Or hath God 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 the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?

35 Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him.

36 Out of heaven he made thee to hear his voice, that he might instruct thee: and upon earth he shewed thee his great fire; and thou heardest his words out of the midst of the fire.

37 And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt;

38 To drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou art, to bring thee in, to give thee their land for an inheritance, as it is this day.

39 Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.

40 Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, for ever.

Cities of Refuge East of the Jordan

41 Then Moses severed three cities on this side Jordan toward the sunrising;

42 That the slayer might flee thither, which should kill his neighbour unawares, and hated him not in times past; and that fleeing unto 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.

44 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 spake unto the children of Israel, after they came forth out of Egypt,

46 On this side Jordan, in the valley over against Beth-peor, in the land of Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt at Heshbon, whom Moses and the children of Israel smote, after they were come forth 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 unto mount Sion, which is Hermon,

49 And all the plain on this side Jordan eastward, even unto the sea of the plain, under the springs of Pisgah.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Covenant — בְּרִית (Berit)

Covenant, treaty

The Hebrew **berit** (בְּרִית) denotes a covenant—a binding agreement, often ratified by blood sacrifice. God's covenants (Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic) structure redemptive history, culminating in the New Covenant.

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Heaven — שָׁמַיִם (Shamayim)

Heaven, sky

The Hebrew **shamayim** (שָׁמַיִם) means heaven or sky—God's dwelling place and the realm above earth. 'The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD's' (Psalm 115:16), yet 'the heaven of heavens cannot contain Him' (1 Kings 8:27).

Judgment — מִשְׁפָּט (Mishpat)

Judgment, justice

The Hebrew **mishpat** (מִשְׁפָּט) means judgment or justice—God's righteous decisions and ordinances. God is the Judge of all the earth who 'shall do right' (Genesis 18:25), executing perfect justice.

Law — תּוֹרָה (Torah)

Law, instruction

The Hebrew **Torah** (תּוֹרָה) means law or instruction—God's revealed will for His people. The Law includes moral, civil, and ceremonial commandments, revealing God's character and humanity's need for a Savior.

Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יהוה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Love — אַהֲבָה / חֶסֶד (Ahavah / Chesed)

Love / Loyal-love

Hebrew uses **ahavah** (אַהֲבָה) for love generally, but the covenant term **chesed** (חֶסֶד) describes God's steadfast, loyal love—faithful covenant commitment beyond mere emotion.

Righteous — צַדִּיק (Tzaddik)

Righteous one

The Hebrew **tzaddik** (צַדִּיק) describes one who is righteous, just, or lawful—conforming to God's standard. From the root tzedek (צֶדֶק), meaning righteousness or justice.

Word — דָּבָר (Davar)

Word, thing, matter

The Hebrew **davar** (דָּבָר) means word, thing, or matter—God's creative and authoritative speech. 'By the word of the LORD were the heavens made' (Psalm 33:6).

CROSS REFERENCES

Deuteronomy 4:1 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 119:4; Romans 10:5. **References Lord:**

Deuteronomy 8:1; Leviticus 22:31; Psalms 105:45. **Judgment:** Deuteronomy 5:1; 30:16; Leviticus 18:5; 19:37; Ezekiel 20:11

Deuteronomy 4:2 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 12:32; Galatians 3:15. **Word:** Joshua 1:7;

Proverbs 30:6; Ecclesiastes 12:13; Matthew 5:18

Deuteronomy 4:4

References God: Deuteronomy 10:20; Joshua 23:8; Acts 11:23; Revelation 14:4

Deuteronomy 4:5

Parallel theme: Matthew 28:20; 1 Corinthians 11:28; 15:3; Hebrews 3:5. **Judgment:** Deuteronomy 4:1. **References God:** Acts 20:27

Deuteronomy 4:6 **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 4:34; Job 28:28; Psalms 19:7; 111:10; Proverbs 1:7; 14:8; Jeremiah 8:9; Malachi 3:12; 2 Timothy 3:15; James 3:13

Deuteronomy 4:7

References Lord: Psalms 34:18; 145:18; 148:14; Isaiah 55:6. **References God:** Deuteronomy 5:26; 2 Samuel 7:23; Psalms 46:1; 73:28; James 4:8. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 43:4

Deuteronomy 4:9 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 6:7; 11:19; 29:29; 32:46; Genesis 18:19; Psalms 71:18; Proverbs 1:8; 23:26; Ephesians 6:4; Revelation 3:3

Deuteronomy 4:10

Word: Deuteronomy 17:19; Exodus 19:9. **Parallel theme:** Exodus 19:16; 20:18. **References God:** Deuteronomy 5:2; Exodus 20:20

Deuteronomy 4:11 **Darkness:** Deuteronomy 5:23

Deuteronomy 4:12 **References Lord:** Deuteronomy 4:15; 5:4; Isaiah 40:3. **Word:** Deuteronomy 4:36; 5:22; Isaiah 30:21. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 4:33; Isaiah 40:6; 40:18; Matthew 3:17

Deuteronomy 4:13 **Covenant:** Exodus 19:5; 34:28; Hebrews 9:4. **Parallel theme:** Exodus 31:18; 2 Corinthians 3:7. **Word:** Exodus 24:12

Deuteronomy 4:15 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 4:9; Psalms 119:9; Proverbs 4:23; 4:27; Isaiah 40:18; Malachi 2:15. **References Lord:** Deuteronomy 4:12; Jeremiah 17:21. **Good:** Joshua 23:11

Deuteronomy 4:16 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 4:23; 5:8; Exodus 32:7; Acts 17:29

Deuteronomy 4:17 **Parallel theme:** Romans 1:23

Deuteronomy 4:19 **Worship:** Deuteronomy 17:3; 2 Kings 17:16; 21:3; Nehemiah 9:6; Acts 7:42; Romans 1:25. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 2:1

Deuteronomy 4:20 **References Egypt:** 1 Kings 8:51; Jeremiah 11:4. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 9:29; Titus 2:14; 1 Peter 2:9. **References Lord:** Deuteronomy 32:9

Deuteronomy 4:21 **References Lord:** Deuteronomy 1:37; 3:26; 31:2; Numbers 20:12

Deuteronomy 4:22 **Good:** Deuteronomy 3:25. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 3:27

Deuteronomy 4:23 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 4:9; Matthew 24:4. **References God:** Hebrews 3:12

Deuteronomy 4:24

References God: Deuteronomy 6:15; 9:3; Exodus 20:5; 34:14; Hebrews 12:29. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 33:14; Nahum 1:6. **References Lord:** Exodus 24:17; Zephaniah 1:18; 1 Corinthians 10:22

Deuteronomy 4:25 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 4:16

Deuteronomy 4:26

Parallel theme: Deuteronomy 31:28; 32:1; Leviticus 18:28; Joshua 23:16; Isaiah 1:2; Jeremiah 2:12; 6:19; 22:29; Micah 6:2; Luke 21:24

Deuteronomy 4:27 **Parallel theme:** Leviticus 26:33; Nehemiah 1:3; Ezekiel 32:26.

References Lord: Ezekiel 12:15

Deuteronomy 4:28 **References God:** Deuteronomy 28:36; 28:64; 1 Samuel 26:19; Isaiah 45:20; Jeremiah 16:13; Ezekiel 20:39. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 44:9; 46:7

Deuteronomy 4:29 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 119:2; 119:10; 119:58. **References God:** Deuteronomy 30:10; 2 Chronicles 15:4. **References Lord:** 2 Kings 23:3; 2 Chronicles 15:15; Psalms 119:145; Jeremiah 3:10; Joel 2:12

Deuteronomy 4:30

References Lord: Deuteronomy 31:29; Jeremiah 23:20. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 49:1; Numbers 24:20; Isaiah 1:19. **References God:** Jeremiah 7:23; Hosea 3:5

Deuteronomy 4:31 **References Lord:** Deuteronomy 31:8. **Grace:** 2 Chronicles 30:9; Nehemiah 9:31; Psalms 116:5; Jeremiah 14:21; Jonah 4:2. **Covenant:** Leviticus 26:42; Psalms 111:5; 111:9. **References God:** Deuteronomy 31:6

Deuteronomy 4:32 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 32:7; Job 8:8; Joel 1:2; Matthew 24:31.

References God: Psalms 44:1. **Creation:** Genesis 1:27

Deuteronomy 4:33 **References God:** Deuteronomy 5:24; Exodus 24:11; Judges 6:22.

Parallel theme: Exodus 33:20. **Kingdom:** Deuteronomy 5:26

Deuteronomy 4:34 **References Lord:** Deuteronomy 6:21; 26:8; Exodus 6:6; 13:3.

References God: Deuteronomy 5:15; 7:19; Exodus 10:7. **References Egypt:** Exodus 3:10; Jeremiah 32:21. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 34:12

Deuteronomy 4:35

References God: Deuteronomy 4:39; 32:39; Exodus 15:11; 1 Samuel 2:2; Isaiah 44:6; 44:8; 45:5; 45:18; 45:22. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 83:18

Deuteronomy 4:36

Word: Exodus 19:9; Nehemiah 9:13. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 4:33; Exodus 19:19; Hebrews 12:25

Deuteronomy 4:37

Love: Deuteronomy 10:15. **References Egypt:** Exodus 13:3; 13:9; 13:14. **Parallel theme:** Exodus 33:14

Deuteronomy 4:38 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 7:1; 11:23

Deuteronomy 4:39 **References God:** Deuteronomy 4:35; Joshua 2:11; 1 Chronicles 28:9; 2 Chronicles 20:6. **References Lord:** 1 Chronicles 29:11; Psalms 135:6; Isaiah 5:12. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 32:29; Daniel 4:35; Hosea 7:2

Deuteronomy 4:40 **References God:** Deuteronomy 5:16; 6:3; Jeremiah 11:4. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 4:6; 22:7; Ephesians 6:3. **Word:** Deuteronomy 12:28; Leviticus 22:31. **References Lord:** Deuteronomy 6:18; 12:25

Deuteronomy 4:41 **Parallel theme:** Numbers 35:6

Deuteronomy 4:43 **Parallel theme:** Joshua 20:8

Deuteronomy 4:46 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 3:29

Deuteronomy 4:48 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 2:36; 3:9; 3:12; Psalms 133:3

Deuteronomy 4:49 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 3:17

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