

# Deuteronomy 4:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

## Analysis

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Moses' exhortation 'Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments' calls for attentive obedience to God's law. The dual purpose—'that ye may live, and go in and possess the land'—links obedience with life and blessing. Obedience isn't legalism but the pathway to experiencing God's good purposes. The phrase 'which I teach you' establishes Moses as authoritative mediator of divine revelation, a role ultimately fulfilled in Christ.

## Historical Context

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This introduces Moses' second discourse in Deuteronomy (chapters 4-11), reviewing the law before entering Canaan. The new generation, born in the wilderness, needed thorough instruction in God's covenant requirements. Moses grounds their future success in understanding and obeying the statutes given at Sinai.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does viewing obedience as pathway to life rather than burdensome duty change your attitude toward God's commands?
2. What statutes is God calling you to renewed attention and obedience?

## Interlinear Text

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יִשְׂרָאֵל לְ וְעַתָּה ה	יִשְׂרָאֵל לְ	וְעַתָּה ה	שָׁמַע	ע	אֵל	הַחֲקִים	וְאֵל
H6258	O Israel	H3478	Now therefore	H8085	H413	unto the statutes	H413
						H2706	
וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה
and unto the judgments	H4941	H834	H595	which I teach	H3925	H853	you for to do
							H6213
וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה
them that ye may live	H2421	and go in	H935	and possess	H3423	H853	the land
						H776	H834
וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה	וְעַתָּה ה
which the LORD	H3068	God	H430	of your fathers	H1	giveth	H5414
						H0	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Romans 10:5** (Parallel theme): For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things shall live by them.

**Deuteronomy 8:1** (References Lord): All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers.

**Ezekiel 20:11** (Judgment): And I gave them my statutes, and shewed them my judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them.

**Leviticus 18:5** (Judgment): Ye shall therefore keep my statutes, and my judgments: which if a man do, he shall live in them: I am the LORD.

**Deuteronomy 30:16** (Judgment): In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.

**Deuteronomy 5:1** (Judgment): And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them.

**Leviticus 22:31** (References Lord): Therefore shall ye keep my commandments, and do them: I am the LORD.

**Leviticus 19:37** (Judgment): Therefore shall ye observe all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: I am the LORD.

**Psalms 119:4** (Parallel theme): Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently.

**Psalms 105:45** (References Lord): That they might observe his statutes, and keep his laws. Praise ye the LORD.