

# Deuteronomy 4:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

## Analysis

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Moses' claim 'I have taught you statutes and judgments' establishes the Mosaic law as divinely revealed, not human invention. The purpose clause 'even as the LORD my God commanded me' grounds all instruction in divine authority. This verse emphasizes that proper living in the land requires adherence to God's revealed will. From a Reformed perspective, this illustrates the regulative principle—God alone determines acceptable worship and conduct. The law functions pedagogically, revealing God's holiness and humanity's need for redemption, ultimately pointing to Christ who fulfills all righteousness (Matthew 5:17).

## Historical Context

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Delivered on the plains of Moab circa 1406 BC, just before Israel's Canaan entry. Moses had received the law at Sinai 40 years earlier (Exodus 19-24) and now rehearses it for the second generation. These statutes and judgments governed civil, ceremonial, and moral life, distinguishing Israel from surrounding pagan nations. The law would serve as Israel's covenant constitution in the promised land.

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does Moses' appeal to divine authorization ('as the LORD...commanded') establish the foundation for biblical authority?
2. In what ways does Old Testament law continue to instruct Christians about God's character and holiness?

## Interlinear Text

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אֲשֶׁר וּמְשֻׁפְטִים רְאֵה  
Behold I have taught      מִתְּعִמָּדָה אֶתְכֶם  
H7200      H3925      H853  
you statutes      עֲקָרִים  
H2706      H4941  
and judgments      וְמִשְׁפָטִים  
H4941      H834  
even as

כִּי בְּקָרְבָּן תַּעֲשֶׂה זֹאת  
commanded the LORD my God me that ye should do      כִּי בְּקָרְבָּן  
H6680      H3068      H430      H6213      H3651      H7130      H776  
so in the land

לְرֹשְׁתָהָן שְׁמָה  
even as      H859      whither ye go      H935      H8033      H3423  
H834                          to possess

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 28:20** (Parallel theme): Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

**Hebrews 3:5** (Parallel theme): And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after;

**Deuteronomy 4:1** (Judgment): 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.

**Acts 20:27** (References God): For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

**1 Corinthians 15:3** (Parallel theme): For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

**1 Corinthians 11:28** (Parallel theme): But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.

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