

Deuteronomy 5:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Go thou near, and hear all that the LORD our God shall say:
and speak thou unto us all that the LORD our God shall speak
unto thee; and we will hear it, and do it.

Analysis

The people's request 'Go thou near, and hear all that the LORD our God shall say' establishes Moses as covenant mediator. The promise 'we will hear it, and do it' expresses covenant commitment to obedience. This mediatorial pattern—Moses receiving God's Word and delivering it to the people—prefigures Christ's superior mediation. The phrase 'all that the LORD our God shall say' indicates comprehensive submission to divine revelation. However, Israel's commitment proved hollow (v. 29), revealing that fallen humanity requires heart transformation, not merely external covenant subscription. Only new covenant grace produces genuine obedience (Ezekiel 36:26-27).

Historical Context

Moses served as Israel's mediator throughout the wilderness period, receiving law on Sinai (Exodus 19-24, 34), delivering divine judgments, and interceding for the people (Exodus 32:11-14, Numbers 14:13-19). This established the prophetic office continuing through Joshua, Samuel, Nathan, Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and ultimately fulfilled in Christ, the Prophet like Moses (Deuteronomy 18:15-18, Acts 3:22-23). Moses' mediation demonstrated that sinners require a go-between to approach the holy God.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does Moses' mediatorial role prefigure Christ's work as the superior Mediator of a better covenant (Hebrews 8:6)?
2. What does Israel's promise to obey followed by failure reveal about human inability to keep covenant apart from divine grace?

Interlinear Text

יֵאמֹר	אֲשֶׁר	רַ	כָּל	אֵת	וְשָׁמַעְנוּ	אֶתָּה	קֹרֵב
shall say					and hear		Go thou near
H559			H3605	H853	H8085	H859	H7126
אֲשֶׁר	רַ	כָּל	אֶת	אֵלֵינוּ	יְדַבֵּר	וְאֵתָּה	יְהוָה
					and speak		all that the LORD
					H1696	H430	H3068
וַעֲשִׂינוּ	וְשָׁמַעְנוּ	אֵלֵינוּ	אֶתָּה	יְהוָה	יְדַבֵּר	רַ	
it and do	and hear				and speak		
H6213	H8085	H413	H430	H3068	H1696		

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