

Deuteronomy 5:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But as for thee, stand thou here by me, and I will speak unto thee all the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which thou shalt teach them, that they may do them in the land which I give them to possess it.

Analysis

God's command to Moses 'stand thou here by me' grants privileged proximity and continued revelation. The promise 'I will speak unto thee all the commandments, statutes, and judgments, which thou shalt teach them' establishes Moses as covenant mediator receiving comprehensive divine instruction. The purpose clause 'that they may do them in the land' connects obedience to inheritance. This verse illustrates the Reformed doctrine of the ministry of the Word: God speaks through ordained servants who faithfully teach Scripture. Moses' special calling prefigures Christ's unique role as the Prophet who reveals God perfectly (John 1:18, Hebrews 1:1-2).

Historical Context

Moses spent 40 days on Sinai receiving detailed law covering worship, festivals, sacrifices, civil justice, and moral conduct (Exodus 20-24, 34). He faithfully taught these statutes to Israel throughout the wilderness wanderings. Moses' unique intimacy with God—speaking 'face to face' (Exodus 33:11)—authenticated his prophetic authority. Yet even Moses was a servant; Christ the Son possesses superior authority (Hebrews 3:5-6). Moses' mediation typified Christ's perfect revelation of the Father.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does Moses' unique proximity to God and role as mediator prefigure Christ's superior revelation of the Father (John 1:18)?
2. What does this pattern of receiving revelation to teach others establish about the importance of faithful biblical instruction in the church?

Interlinear Text

אַל יְכֹנֵן תְּדַבֵּךְ הַנּוֹתָר עַמְּךָ דְּעַמְּךָ בְּעֵמֶד עַמְּךָ
H859 H6311 But as for thee stand thou here by me and I will speak H413
H5975 H5978 H1696

וְמִשְׁפָט יְמִינְךָ יְמִינְךָ יְמִינְךָ כָּל אֲתָּה בְּמִצְרָיִם
H853 H3605 unto thee all the commandments and the statutes and the judgments H4941
H4687 H2706

אֲשֶׁר תְּלִמְדֵד מִשְׁעָנָה בְּאֶרֶץ רַבָּנִים
H834 which thou shalt teach them that they may do them in the land H834
H3925 H6213 H776

לְרַשְׁתָּהָן נָתַתִּי אֲנֵכִי
H595 which I give H0 them to possess H3423

Additional Cross-References

Galatians 3:19 (Word): Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

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