

Deuteronomy 6:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is at this day.

Analysis

And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always. This verse captures the essence of covenant obedience - God's law is not arbitrary restriction but revelation of what produces human flourishing.

The phrase for our good always reveals the benevolent purpose behind divine commandments. Reformed theology emphasizes that God's law reflects His character and reveals the created order. Obedience to God's statutes aligns humanity with reality as God designed it, producing blessing not as arbitrary reward but as natural consequence of living according to divine wisdom.

The command to fear the LORD establishes proper relationship orientation. Biblical fear combines reverent awe, holy respect, and loving trust. This fear is not servile terror but filial devotion - the response of redeemed children to their sovereign Father.

The Hebrew construction emphasizes perpetual benefit - always indicates continuous, unbroken welfare flowing from covenant faithfulness. God's statutes produce temporal and eternal good, preserving life in this age and securing blessing in the age to come.

Historical Context

Moses speaks to the second generation of Israelites on the plains of Moab, shortly before they enter Canaan. The first generation died in wilderness wandering due to unbelief; this generation must learn from their fathers' failure.

Deuteronomy functions as covenant renewal document, reiterating and expanding upon the Sinai covenant for those who will possess the Promised Land. The law is not merely legal code but relational framework for the theocratic nation.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does understanding God's law as designed for our good change our attitude toward obedience?
2. In what ways have you experienced blessing through keeping God's commandments?
3. How does proper fear of the LORD differ from mere terror or anxiety?
4. What does it mean that God's statutes produce our good 'always' - both now and eternally?
5. How should the benevolent purpose of God's law shape how we teach it to others?

Interlinear Text

וַיְצַו נֹ	יְהוָה ה	לַעֲשׂוֹת	אֶת	כָּל	הַחֻקִּים יִם	הָאֵל לָהּ
commanded	And the LORD	us to do	H853	H3605	all these statutes	H428
H6680	H3068	H6213			H2706	
אֶת לִירְאָה ה	יְהוָה ה	אֱלֹהֵינוּ	לְטוֹב	לָנוּ	כָּל	כִּהְיֵינוּ
to fear	And the LORD	our God	for our good	H0	H3605	always
H3372	H3068	H430	H2896			H3117
לְחַיֵּיתָנוּ	כִּהְיֵינוּ	הַזֶּה:				
that he might preserve us alive	always	H2088				
H2421	H3117					

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 32:39 (Good): And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them:

Psalms 41:2 (References Lord): The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies.

Isaiah 3:10 (Parallel theme): Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings.

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 4:1 (References God): 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.

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.

