

# Deuteronomy 8:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

## Analysis

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The opening command 'All the commandments... shall ye observe to do' establishes comprehensive obedience as the condition for covenant blessing. The threefold promise—'that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess'—shows that obedience produces life, growth, and inheritance. The Hebrew *chayah* (live) means not mere existence but flourishing life. Obedience isn't the root of life but the pathway to abundant life. The promise 'which the LORD sware unto your fathers' grounds current blessing in God's ancient covenant faithfulness. This verse introduces chapter 8's theme: remember God's provision to avoid pride in prosperity. The New Testament parallel is Jesus' teaching that obedience demonstrates love (John 14:15) and leads to abiding in His love (John 15:10).

## Historical Context

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This command comes as Israel prepares to transition from wilderness wandering to settled agricultural life in Canaan. The 40 years of divine provision (manna, water from rock, preserved clothing) would end; Israel would farm, harvest, and accumulate wealth. This transition created spiritual danger—self-sufficiency replacing dependence on God. Moses addresses a generation poised between miraculous provision and ordinary prosperity, warning them to maintain the same dependence in plenty that necessity forced upon them in want.

## Related Passages

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

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does prosperity tempt you toward self-sufficiency and away from dependence on God?
2. In what ways does obeying God's commands lead to fuller, more abundant life?
3. How can you maintain spiritual disciplines in times of plenty that were natural in times of need?

## Interlinear Text

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כָּל	הַמִּצְוֹת	אֲשֶׁר	אֶנִּי	מֵצַו	הֵי יוֹם
H3605	All the commandments	H834	H595	which I command	thee this day
	H4687			H6680	H3117
וְתִשְׁמְרוּ	לַעֲשׂוֹת	לְמַעַן	תִּחְיִי	וּרְבִיתֶם	וּבֵאתֶם
shall ye observe	to do	H4616	that ye may live	and multiply	and go in
H8104	H6213		H2421	H7235	H935
וְיִרְשֶׁתֶּם	אֶת	הָאֲרֶץ	אֲשֶׁר	נִשְׁבַּע	יְהוָה
and possess	H853	the land	H834	sware	which the LORD
H3423		H776		H7650	H3068
					unto your fathers
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## Additional Cross-References

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**Deuteronomy 4:1** (References Lord): 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.

