

Deuteronomy 9:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Remember, and forget not, how thou provokedst the LORD thy God to wrath in the wilderness: from the day that thou didst depart out of the land of Egypt, until ye came unto this place, ye have been rebellious against the LORD.

Analysis

The double command 'Remember, and forget not' uses emphatic repetition. What must be remembered? 'How thou provokedst the LORD thy God to wrath in the wilderness.' This is painful memory—recalling sin and rebellion. Why remember it? To prevent pride (v. 4-6) and maintain humility. The phrase 'from the day that thou didst depart out of Egypt' until present shows persistent rebellion throughout the wilderness period. This isn't selective memory emphasizing victories while forgetting failures, but honest history acknowledging chronic unfaithfulness. Such remembrance keeps grace central—if Israel enters Canaan, it's despite their rebellion, not because of their merit. Christians must likewise remember their pre-conversion rebellion and ongoing sin to maintain humble gratitude for grace.

Historical Context

Israel's wilderness history included golden calf idolatry (Exodus 32), refusing to enter Canaan (Numbers 14), Korah's rebellion (Numbers 16), complaining about food/water repeatedly, and sexual immorality with Moabite women (Numbers 25). Moses catalogs this rebellion in Deuteronomy 9:7-24 as evidence of Israel's 'stiff neck.' This wasn't occasional failure but persistent pattern. The generation entering Canaan needed to learn from their parents' failures. The same principle

applies to church history and personal testimony—remembering past rebellion prevents present pride.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What aspects of your pre-conversion life or ongoing sin do you need to 'remember and forget not' to maintain humility?
2. How does honestly acknowledging your rebellion against God deepen appreciation for His grace?
3. What tendency to 'forget' your sinfulness and need for grace do you need to combat?

Interlinear Text

אֶל זֶכֶר	חַטָּאת תְּשַׁפֵּחַ	אֲשֶׁר אָתָּה	פָּתָח הַקָּצֶן	אֶת
Remember	H408	and forget	H853	to wrath
H2142		H7911		H7107
יהָהָה:		אֱלֹהֵי יְהָהָה:	בְּמִדְבָּר	לְמִן
not how thou provokedst the LORD	H3068	thy God	H4057	from the day
H834		H430	H4480	H3117
אֲשֶׁר	יְצַא אֶתְּנָא	מִן הָרָץ	מִצְבֵּחַ יְמִינְךָ	עַד בְּאַכְמָם
	that thou didst depart out	of the land	of Egypt	until ye came
H3318		H776	H4714	H935
unto this place	H2088	מִמְרָא יְמִינְךָ	בְּיִתְּרָה	עַמְּךָ
H4725		H4784	H1961	H5704
יהָהָה:		ye have been rebellious	against	until ye came
not how thou provokedst the LORD	H3068			H5704

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 16:2 (Parallel theme): And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness:

Exodus 14:11 (References Egypt): And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt?

Numbers 21:5 (References God): And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.

Numbers 25:2 (References God): And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods.

Numbers 11:4 (Parallel theme): And the mixt multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat?

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