

“Living Up to Your Commitment” Deuteronomy 26:16-19

Verse 16 sets the foundation for the message: (1) God **COMMANDS** obedience to His Word (v. 16a), and (2) we are **CAREFUL TO OBEY** with all our heart (v. 16b). In the next two verses (vv. 17-18) we see **TWO DECLARATIONS**. One by God’s people (v. 17) and one by God Himself (vv. 18-19). Consider these declarations in light of your own commitment to the Lord.

- I. **A DECLARATION BY GOD’S PEOPLE** (What God’s people declared to God) v. 17.
 - A. They declared **THE LORD TO BE THEIR GOD** (v. 17a “You declared the Lord to be your God...”). -Have you really evaluated who your God is? (cf. 4:35; 5:7; 6:4).
 - B. They declared **THE LORD’S WAY TO BE THEIR WAY** (v. 17b “...and that you would walk in His ways...”). -Are the ways of God also the ways of your life? (cf. 8:6; 10:12; Isa. 55:8-9).
 - C. They declared **The LORD’S WORD TO BE THEIR MANDATE** (v. 17c “...and keep His statutes, His commandments and His ordinances, and listen to His voice”). -Is the Word of God your mandate for living? (cf. 4:12, 30; 6:30; 12:28).
- II. **A DECLARATION BY GOD** (What God declared to His people) vv. 18-19.
 - A. God declared, **YOU ARE THE RICHES OF MY POSSESSION** (v. 18a “The Lord has today declared you to be His people, a treasured possession...”) (cf. 4:20). I Peter 2:9 (of “you who believe”) “...you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession...”
 - B. God declared **YOU ARE THE RECIPIENTS OF MY PROMISE** (v.18b “...as He promised...”) (cf. 6:3). II Peter 1:3-4 “...His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness...He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature...”
 - C. God declared, **YOU ARE THE REFLECTION OF MY PRECEPTS** (v.18c “...that you should keep all His commandments...”) (cf. 4:6; 7:12a, 14a).
 - D. God declared, **YOU ARE RANKED BY MY PREEMINENCE** (v. 19a “...that He shall set you high above all nations which He has made, for praise, fame, and honor...”) (cf. 4:7). Matthew 16:18 (Jesus said) “...upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it.”
 - E. God declared, **YOU ARE A REPOSITORY FOR MY PERFECTION** (v. 19b “...you shall be a consecrated people to the Lord your God”) (cf. 7:6;28:9). I Peter 1:15-16 “...like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy.’”

There is no question about God “living up to His declaration to us if, in fact, our declaration to Him is honored. Have you yet declared, (1) **THE LORD IS MY GOD**, (2) **GOD’S WAYS WILL BE MY WAY**, and (3) **GOD’S WORD WILL BE MY MANDATE FOR LIFE**? If not, you may make your declaration today.

We need to “be careful to do them with all our heart and with all our soul” (v. 16).