



## Portion:

### SCRIPTURES

- Deuteronomy 3:22-7:11
- Leviticus 18:1-5
- Revelation 1:1-3; 12:17;  
14:12-13; 22:18-19
- Matthew 3:16-17; 11:28-30;  
17:5; 24:12-14; 28:18-20
- Philippians 2:9-13
- Jer. 16:19; Zech. 8:23
- Rom. 1:18-25; 2:13; 3:1-2,  
20-22; 10:1-4
- II Peter 1:16-21
- II Corinthians 3:12-18
- Ephesians 6:1-3
- I John 5:2-3
- Mark 12:28-30
- James 1:21-25; 2:18
- I Peter 2:4-5, 9-10
- Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

## Title:

### YOUR FINAL TESTIMONY!

- That You May Have Life
- Don't Make it Up; Just Do  
What I Say!
- Don't Add Nor Take Away
- Faith and Obedience
- The Word and the Testimony
- Lawlessness and Deliverance
- Salvation vs. Redemption
- Wisdom & Insight Testimony
- The Outcome of Idolatry
- The Voice of Yahweh
- Who Can Hear His Voice?
- Hear and Do
- Well With You
- The Greatest Commandment
- The Righteousness of God
- Don't Marry Pagans
- The Final Testimony

*Can you imagine this auspicious moment? You are standing in the presence of the Almighty Creator, your heart pounding out of your chest, and He asks you this daunting question. "How would you characterize your final testimony?" You pause for a moment as you consider your many years as a born-again Christian. And you think, "I got this; this is an easy one!" Suddenly your confidence swells; you stand a bit taller and your heart stops thumping. "I got this." You look into His loving eyes and softly offer this answer. "I have faith in Y'shua, His blood has washed me clean. That is my testimony." Yahweh lovingly asks you one more question, one you did not expect for some reason. "What about obedience?" Your advocate is standing by your side and reminds you of His final revelation to John. "Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus." (Revelation 14:12) "Faith and obedience," the Father affirms. "Please enter as by faith, but you missed a powerful opportunity in your testimony because of your ignorance about obedience." Join us and learn how to avoid this missed opportunity in your final testimony!*

## **THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE**

“You shall **not add** to the word which I command you, **nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments** of the LORD your God which I command you.” Deuteronomy 4:2 NKJV

## **OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE**

“And because **lawlessness will abound**, the love of many will grow cold. **But he who endures to the end shall be saved**. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.” Matthew 24:12-14 NKJV

## Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. This portion completes the historical prologue of the Deuteronomy covenant document and begins a rehearsal of the stipulations. Part of that rehearsal is a repetition of the Ten Commandments and the famous first passage of the Shema: Deuteronomy 6:4-9.
2. **Moses Forbidden to Enter the Land:** Moses reminds the people that he is not going to enter the land and how he pleaded with Yahweh to let him cross over, but was not permitted because He

was angry with Moses “on their account.” God told him to not speak on this matter again.

(a) In chapter one Moses also blamed his exclusion from the promised land on the people. *“The LORD was also angry with me for your sakes, saying, ‘Even you shall not go in there.’ (Deuteronomy 1:37)* We know that it was actually Moses lack of faith that was the cause, as he struck the rock twice instead of speaking to it, as instructed by Yahweh. So, it is interesting that he chose to blame the people. Yes, it was the people who created the circumstance to which Moses had to respond, but it was still his response that brought the consequence.

(b) In chapter 4 he blames them again. *“Furthermore the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, and swore that I would not cross over the Jordan...” Deuteronomy 4:21-22 NKJV*

3. Moses can see the promised land from across the Jordan but is is commanded to prepare Joshua to inherit it.
4. **Moses Commands Obedience:** Moses is adamant about Israel remembering and observing Yahweh’s commands (and teaching them to their children and grandchildren). He reminds them of their encounter at Horeb when God spoke to them the Ten Commandments from the mountain and gave them the stone tablets. He reminds them that he taught them all Yahweh’s

commands and how they were to keep them when they crossed into the promised land, and how He annihilated the people who followed Baal Peor. Famously he records these words, *“You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.” Deuteronomy 4:2 NKJV*

5. **Beware of Idolatry:** Moses reminds the people to flee from idolatry as they were delivered from an idolatrous nation (Egypt). And how Yahweh is a jealous God (a consuming fire), so worshiping other gods is especially offensive and will provoke Him to anger.
6. Moses calls heaven and earth as a witness against them and warns that they will you soon utterly perish if they commit idolatry in the land, but then makes this dreadful prediction.
  - (a) Yahweh will scatter you among the nations for your disobedience and idolatry. (Note: scatter them out of the promised land they have NOT EVEN ENTERED YET!)
  - (b) And then he prophesies that they will repent, seek Yahweh, and obey, and that He would not destroy them, nor forget the covenant He made with their fathers.
7. Then Moses reminds them that, from creation forward, Yahweh has never done such great things for any other people on earth,

as He has done for Israel, so they would know Him as the Almighty God!

- (a) He separated them from all other nations
- (b) He delivered them from mightier nations with His presence
- (c) Out of heaven they heard His voice as to instruct them
- (d) They should be radically obedient to Him and then it will “go well with them and with their children.”

8. Moses then reminds them of the cities of refuge east of the Jordan.

9. **Introduction to God’s Law:** at the end of chapter 4 we are reminded that God gave Israel the law after they came out of Egypt.

10. **The Ten Commandments Reviewed:** All Ten Commandments written on stone are reviewed in detail in the first part of chapter 5 with this exclamation point. *“These words the LORD spoke to all your assembly, in the mountain from the midst of the fire, the cloud, and the thick darkness, with a loud voice; and He added no more. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me.” (Deuteronomy 5:22)*

11. **People are Afraid of God’s Presence:** Moses reiterates how the people were so concerned about hearing the voice of God directly, as they might be consumed with His fire, that they ask Moses to serve as their go-between. *“For who is there of all flesh*

*who has heard the voice of the living God speaking from the midst of the fire, as we have, and lived?” (Deuteronomy 5:26)*

12. The people then asked that Moses go hear Yahweh’s voice for them and anything he tells them Yahweh said, they would do. Yahweh told Moses that what the People are asking for is a good thing. Moses comes back with an offer from Yahweh and the people accept. Their “I do”, at that moment, was the “I do” of Israel becoming Yahweh’s bride.
13. Yahweh knows that they will not be a faithful bride. They are instructed to not turn to the left or the right (not to stray off the course of obeying Him). *“Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever! (Deuteronomy 5:29)*
14. **The Greatest Commandment:** Then comes a very famous moment in the Torah. Certainly Judaism recognizes it as such. And so does Y’shua (You do know He was a Jew, don’t you? 😊) It’s called the “Shema” which gets its name from the first word of Deuteronomy 6:4. [Hear, שְׁמַע (šə·ma’) meaning **to hear, listen to, obey**].

15. Verses 6:1-3 emphatically commands God's people and their children and grandchildren to keep all His statutes and His commandments.
16. Then these words appear in verse 6:4, which have become maybe the most important prayer in all of Judaism: *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength."*
- (a) These words are to be in their hearts and they are to diligently teach them to their children, everywhere and at all times. They should be engrained in their minds and should cause them to take action because of them. They should cover the entrance of their homes as to govern all they do, forever.
- (b) And thus it should not be a surprise that when our blessed Savior Y'shua Himself was asked which is the first (greatest) commandment, the exchange looked like this: *"Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, **"Which is the first commandment of all?"** Jesus answered him, **"The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with***



*all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment.” Mark 12:28-30 NKJV [Note: Matthew 22:34-38 has the same question and Y’shua uses these words “This is the **first** and **great** commandment.” Matthew does leave off the first part “Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one.”]*

17. **Caution Against Disobedience:** when you come into the land, beware lest you forget the God who delivered you from Egypt. You shall fear the LORD and not go after the gods of the peoples who are all around you.
18. When your children ask the meaning of the testimonies, the statutes, the judgments and the commands, then you shall say:
  - (a) We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand;
  - (b) the LORD showed signs and wonders before our eyes, great and severe, against Egypt, Pharaoh, and all his household;
  - (c) He brought us out from there to give us the land of which He swore to our fathers;
  - (d) And the LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes that He might preserve us alive;
  - (e) ***Then it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to observe all these commandments before the LORD our God, as He has commanded us.’” Deuteronomy 6:25***

19. **A Chosen People:** You will conquer nations greater and mightier than you.

- (a) Make no covenant with them nor show mercy to them;
- (b) Don't intermarry so they don't influence you to worship their gods;
- (c) Instead, destroy their altars, break down their sacred pillars, cut down their wooden images, and burn their carved images with fire.

20. *"For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth."* (Deuteronomy 7:6)

21. Yahweh chose you because He loves you and to keep the oath which He swore to your fathers

22. Yahweh keeps His covenant and mercy for a thousand generations **with those who love Him and keep His commandments**; and He repays those who hate Him to their face, to destroy them. He will not be slack with him who hates Him; He will repay him to his face. (Deuteronomy 7:9-10)

THAT YOU MAY HAVE LIFE

**1. Don't Make it Up; Just Do What I Say!**

**A. You May Not Add Nor Take Away**

(1) The Commands are the Commands

(a) ““Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the judgments which I teach you to observe, **that you may live, and go in and possess the land** which the LORD God of your fathers is giving you. **You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it**, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.” Deuteronomy 4:1-2 NKJV

1. Listen to what I teach and do what you are commanded, so you will live and possess the land.

2. Don't change a thing; You Take, He Takes

a) ““Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, **one jot or one tittle will by no means pass** from the law till all is fulfilled.”

Matthew 5:17-18 NKJV

b) For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: **If anyone adds** to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and **if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life,**

from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.” Revelation 22:18-19 NKJV

(2) Don't, Don't, Do, Live!

(a) Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘I am the LORD your God. According to the doings of the land of Egypt, where you dwelt, **you shall not do**; and according to the doings of the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you, **you shall not do**; nor shall you walk in their ordinances. **You shall observe My judgments and keep My ordinances**, to walk in them: I am the LORD your God. You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, which if a man does, **he shall live** by them: I am the LORD.” Leviticus 18:1-5 NKJV (Also see Romans 10:5)

1. Don't do what they did in Egypt
2. Don't do what they do in Canaan
3. Walk in My ways
4. And you will have life

## **B. Faith and Obedience**

(1) The Word and the Testimony

(a) “The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His

servant John, **who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ**, to all things that he saw. Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near." Revelation 1:1-3 NKJV

(2) The Commandments and the Testimony

- (a) "And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, **who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.**" Revelation 12:17 NKJV

(3) The Commandments and Faith

- (a) "Here is the patience of the saints; **here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.** Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.'" Revelation 14:12-13 NKJV

(4) Baptism and Observing Commands

- (a) "And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, **baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the**

**Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded** you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen."

Matthew 28:18-20 NKJV

1. Do you recognize that in your life as a born-again Christian there are two sides to the coins? **Faith and Obedience**
  - a) **The word** of God, **and the testimony** of Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:1-3)
  - b) **The commandments** of God **and the testimony** of Jesus Christ (Revelation 12:17)
  - c) **The commandments** of God **and the faith** of Jesus (Revelation 14:12)
  - d) **Baptizing them** [into Christ] **and teaching them to observe** all things that I have commanded (Matthew 28:19-20)

(5) Lawlessness and Salvation

- (a) "And because **lawlessness will abound**, the love of many will grow cold. **But he who endures to the end shall be saved** [Strong's Greek 4982]. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come."

Matthew 24:12-14 NKJV

1. **Will be Saved:** (Verb) (sōthēsetai) Strong's Greek 4982: To save, heal, preserve, rescue. From a primary sos; to save, i.e. Deliver or protect.
- (b) “Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation** [Strong's Greek **4991**] with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.”  
Philippians 2:12-13 NKJV
1. **Salvation:** (Noun) (sōtērian) Strong's Greek 4991: Feminine of a derivative of soter as noun; rescue or safety.
  2. “Will be Saved” and “Salvation” both come from the same root:
    - a) **sózó:** to save: 4982 sōzō (from sōs, "safe, rescued") – properly, deliver out of danger and into safety; used principally of God rescuing believers from the penalty and power of sin – and into His provisions (safety).
    - b) [4982 (sōzō) is the root of: 4990 /sōtēr ("Savior"), 4991 /sōtēría ("salvation") and the adjectival form,

4992 /sōtérion (what is "saved/rescued from destruction and brought into divine safety").]

3. Contrast “**salvation**” with “**redemption**” (redemption, not salvation is actually what you are referring to when you talk about eternal life.
  - a) “In Him we have **redemption** [Strong's Greek 629] through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace” Ephesians 1:7 NKJV
  - b) **Redemption:** (apolytrōsin) Strong's Greek 629: From a compound of apo and lutron; ransom in full, literally, "buying back from, re-purchasing (winning back) what was previously forfeited (lost)."
  - c) This is vitally important as you read the Word, so you don't get confused by scriptures that say, “ But he who **endures to the end shall be saved** “ and **work out your own salvation** with fear and trembling.” These verses, and so many others like them, are not speaking of eternal life, but life here on earth. And they serve as inspiration to obey the Lord **after we are redeemed** (paid for once and for all), so we will enjoy an absolutely glorious life



RIGHT NOW (no matter what joys we experience or suffering we endure!) And what a witness this is to the dying world. As a matter of fact, it is the most powerful witness there is.

d) "Let your life witness to your faith as a follower of Christ; and only if necessary use words!"

(6) Wisdom and Insight in the Sight of Others

(a) ""Surely I have taught you statutes and judgments, just as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should act according to them in the land which you go to possess. **Therefore be careful to observe them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.'** "For what great nation is there that has God so near to it, as the LORD our God is to us, for whatever reason we may call upon Him? And what great nation is there that has such statutes and righteous judgments as are in all this law which I set before you this day?"

Deuteronomy 4:5-8 NKJV

(b) "O LORD, my strength and my fortress, My refuge in the day of affliction, **The Gentiles shall come to You From the ends of the earth and say, "Surely our fathers have**

**inherited lies**, Worthlessness and unprofitable things.”

Jeremiah 16:19 NKJV

- (c) ““Thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, “**Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.**” ’ ” Zechariah 8:23 NKJV
- (d) “What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision? Much in every way! Chiefly **because to them were committed the oracles of God.**” Romans 3:1-2 NKJV
- (e) “Let your light so shine before men, **that they may see your good works** and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16 NKJV
1. Obedience will witness to nations
  2. The nations will realize they have inherited lies
  3. The nations will realize that Yahweh is with us
  4. We have a distinct advantage when we know the law
  5. Good works equals good witness
- (7) Don't Forget
- (a) “Only take heed to yourself, and **diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart** all the days of

your life. And teach them to your children and your grandchildren,” Deuteronomy 4:9 NKJV

- (b) “So He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, the Ten Commandments; and He wrote them on two tablets of stone. **And the LORD commanded me at that time to teach you** statutes and judgments, that you might observe them in the land which you cross over to possess.”

Deuteronomy 4:13-14 NKJV

1. Practice so you don't forget
2. Teach so they can obey and possess

(8) The Outcome of Idolatry—Be warned; Be careful

- (a) “**Take careful heed** to yourselves, for you saw no form when the LORD spoke to you at Horeb out of the midst of the fire, **lest you act corruptly and make for yourselves a carved image in the form of any figure:** the likeness of male or female, the likeness of any animal that is on the earth or the likeness of any winged bird that flies in the air, the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground or the likeness of any fish that is in the water beneath the earth. And take heed, lest you lift your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun, the moon, and the stars, all the host of heaven, you feel

driven to worship them and serve them, which the LORD your God has given to all the peoples under the whole heaven as a heritage.” Deuteronomy 4:15-19  
NKJV

- (b) **“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men**, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, **and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things**. Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, **and worshiped**

**and served the creature rather than the Creator,** who is blessed forever. Amen.” Romans 1:18-25 NKJV

1. The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men
2. That ungodliness is fueled with the rocket fuel of idolatry

## A VOICE FROM HEAVEN

### 2. Heaven and Earth

#### A. The Voice of Yahweh

(1) Never Before: The Voice of God to the only People who could hear Him

- (a) **“For ask now concerning the days that are past,** which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and ask from one end of heaven to the other, **whether any great thing like this has happened, or anything like it has been heard. Did any people ever hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire,** as you have heard, and live? **Or did God ever try to go and take for Himself a nation from the midst of another nation,** by trials, by signs, by wonders, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the

LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?"

Deuteronomy 4:32-34 NKJV

1. Let's look back over history
  2. Nothing this great has ever happened before
  3. God selected a specific people to actually HEAR HIS VOICE
  4. And God hand-picked one nation over all the others
- (2) A voice from Heaven—Fire from Earth

- (a) **"To you it was shown, that you might know that the LORD Himself is God;** there is none other besides Him. **Out of heaven He let you hear His voice,** that He might instruct you; **on earth He showed you His great fire,** and you heard His words out of the midst of the fire."

Deuteronomy 4:35-36 NKJV

- (b) "Therefore know this day, and consider it in your heart, that the LORD Himself is God in **heaven above and on the earth beneath;** there is no other." Deuteronomy 4:39 NKJV

1. Yahweh let you hear His voice so that you would KNOW HIM as the one true God in the heaven above and the earth beneath!
2. He showed you His great fire!

3. SOUND FAMILIAR? “Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, **that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,** to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:9-11 NKJV

(3) The Baptism

(a) “When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly **a voice came from heaven**, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”” Matthew 3:16-17 NKJV

(4) The Transfiguration (Peter, James, John, Y’shua, Moses, Elijah)

(a) “While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly **a voice came out of the cloud**, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!”” Matthew 17:5 NKJV

(b) “For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our

Lord Jesus Christ, **but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.** For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such **a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory:** “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” And **we heard this voice which came from heaven** when we were with Him on the holy mountain. And so we have **the prophetic word confirmed**, which you do well to heed as a **light that shines in a dark place**, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that **no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation**, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.” II Peter 1:16-21 NKJV

1. The People heard Yahweh’s voice at Y’shua’s baptism
2. Peter, James and John heard Yahweh’s voice at the transfiguration
3. Peter’s report of the transfiguration is wonderfully prophetic:
  - a) He says that they were “eyewitnesses” and heard Yahweh’s voice as a PROPHETIC CONFIRMATION. (Don’t you forget the past—Deuteronomy 4:32)



b) A light that shines out of darkness, imagery similar to what the people experienced when they heard Yahweh's voice at Mt. Sinai "He showed you His great fire!"

(5) Who Can Hear His Voice?

(a) "For who is there of all flesh who has **heard the voice** of the living God speaking from the midst of the fire, as we have, and lived? Deuteronomy 5:26

(b) "The LORD **talked with you** face to face on the mountain from the midst of the fire." Deuteronomy 5:4 NKJV

(c) ""These words the LORD spoke to all your assembly, in the mountain from the midst of the fire, the cloud, and the thick darkness, **with a loud voice; and He added no more.** And He wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me." Deuteronomy 5:22 NKJV

(d) "**My sheep hear My voice**, and I know them, and they follow Me." John 10:27 NKJV

1. Who can hear His voice? My sheep hear My voice!

IT WILL GO WELL WITH YOU

### 3. Hear and Do

#### A. Well With You

(1) Diligently Keep His Commandments

- (a) “You shall therefore **keep His statutes and His commandments** which I command you today, **that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may prolong your days in the** land which the LORD your God is giving you for all time.””

Deuteronomy 4:40 NKJV

- (b) “You shall **diligently keep the commandments** of the LORD your God, His testimonies, and His statutes which He has commanded you. And you shall **do what is right and good in the sight of the LORD**, that it may be **well with you**, and that you may go in and possess the good land of which the LORD swore to your fathers, to cast out all your enemies from before you, as the LORD has spoken.” Deuteronomy 6:17-19 NKJV

- (c) “**Observe and obey all these words which I command you, that it may go well with you and your children** after you forever, when you do what is good and right in the sight of the LORD your God.” Deuteronomy 12:28 NKJV

(2) A Heart to Reverence Him

- (a) Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, **that it**

**might be well with them** and with their children forever! Deuteronomy 5:29

- (b) **“Now this is the commandment, and these are the statutes and judgments which the LORD your God has commanded to teach you, that you may observe them in the land** which you are crossing over to possess, **that you may fear the LORD your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments** which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days **may be prolonged.** Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe it, **that it may be well with you,** and that you may multiply greatly as the LORD God of your fathers has promised you— ‘a land flowing with milk and honey.’”  
Deuteronomy 6:1-3 NKJV [**Then...Hear, O Israel! SEE BELOW**]

(3) Honor Your Parents

- (a) **Honor your father and your mother,** as the LORD your God has commanded you, **that your days may be long, and that it may be well with you** in the land which the LORD your God is giving you.” Deuteronomy 5:16  
NKJV

- (b) ““Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.” Exodus 20:12 NKJV
- (c) “**Children, obey your parents** in the Lord, for this is right. “**Honor your father and mother,**” which is the **first commandment with promise: “that it may be well with you** and you may live long on the earth.”  
Ephesians 6:1-3NKJV
- (4) Don't Stray Off Course
- (a) “Therefore you shall be careful to do as the LORD your God has commanded you; **you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you,** and that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess.” Deuteronomy 5:32-33 NKJV
1. Diligently keep His commandments and it will go well with you!
  2. Do what is right in the sight of Yahweh and it will go well with you!
  3. Observe and obey all His words and it will go well with you!

4. Have a holy fear (reverence) of Yahweh and it will go well with you!
5. Honor your parents and it will go well with you!
6. Don't stray off course to the right or the left and it will go well with you!
7. AND YOUR CHILDREN

(5) Obeying Him is Not a Burden

- (a) "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. **And His commandments are not burdensome.**" I John 5:2-3 NKJV
- (b) "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.**" Matthew 11:28-30 NKJV
- (c) YEP, THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT MOSES BELIEVED AND TAUGHT: ""For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious [**Strong's Hebrew 6381 "difficult"**] for you, nor is it far off." Deuteronomy 30:11 NKJV

1. Strong's Hebrew 6381: (niḵ·lêṭ) Too difficult; beyond one's power, difficult to do; difficult to understand; extraordinary or hard
2. His commandments are not a burden; His yoke is easy and burden light! His commandments are NOT too difficult (so stop saying you can't obey them!)
3. NOT TOO DIFFICULT? BUT ONLY AFTER THIS HAPPENS:
  - a) "And the LORD your God **will circumcise your heart and the heart** of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live." Deuteronomy 30:6 NKJV
  - b) **NO ONE TAUGHT THIS BETTER THAN PAUL!**  
"For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, **who show the work of the law written in their hearts**, their

conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them )” Romans 2:12-15 NKJV

- c) **“For circumcision is indeed profitable if you keep the law; but if you are a breaker of the law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision.**

Therefore, if an uncircumcised man keeps the righteous requirements of the law, will not his uncircumcision be counted as circumcision? And will not the physically uncircumcised, if he fulfills the law, judge you who, even with your written code and circumcision, are a transgressor of the law? **For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart**, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.” Romans 2:25-29 NKJV

## **B. The Greatest Commandment**

- (1) Deuteronomy 6:4 *“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.”*

- (a) Maybe the following could be considered one of, if not them most important verses in the Torah. Certainly Judaism recognizes it as such. And so does Y'shua (You do know He was a Jew, don't you? 😊) It's called the "Shema" which gets its name from the first word of Deuteronomy 6:4. [Hear, שְׁמַע (šə·ma') meaning **to hear, listen to, obey**]
- (b) Verse 1-3 emphatically commands God's people and their children and grandchildren to keep all His statutes and His commandments.
- (c) Then these words appear in verse 4, which have become maybe the most important prayer in all of Judaism: *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength."*  
*Deuteronomy 6:4*
1. These words are to be in their hearts and they are to diligently teach them to their children, everywhere and at all times. They should be engrained in their minds and should cause them to take action because of them. They should cover the entrance of their homes as to govern all they do, forever.



(2) No Surprise!

(a) And thus it should not be a surprise that this was His answer when when our blessed Savior Y'shua Himself was asked... "Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, **"Which is the first commandment of all?"** Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments is: **'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'** This is the first commandment." Mark 12:28-30 NKJV

(b) [Note: Matthew 22:34-38 has the same question and Y'shua uses these words "This is the first and great commandment." And Matthew leaves off the first part "Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one."]

(3) Obedience will be righteousness for us!

(a) **"When your son asks you in time to come, saying, 'What is the meaning of the testimonies, the statutes, and the judgments which the LORD our God has commanded you?' then you shall say to your son: 'We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand; and the LORD**

showed signs and wonders before our eyes, great and severe, against Egypt, Pharaoh, and all his household. Then He brought us out from there, that He might bring us in, to give us the land of which He swore to our fathers. And the LORD **commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good** always, that **He might preserve us alive**, as it is this day. **Then it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to observe all these commandments before the LORD our God, as He has commanded us.**” Deuteronomy

6:20-25 NKJV

1. When you are asked what is the meaning of all these laws, this is your answer!
2. We were slaves in Egypt and with His mighty hand Yahweh freed us
3. We witnessed signs and wonders
4. He brought us out of slavery so He could fulfill His promise to Abraham and give us the promised land
5. He commanded us to observe all the statutes and reverence Him for our OWN GOOD!
6. So...we would be PRESERVED ALIVE! (Again see Leviticus 18:5 and Romans 10:5)
7. THEN, I SAY THEN...**it will be righteousness for us!**

(4) The righteousness of God (Speaking of righteousness!)

(a) “Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. **For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end [goal] of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.**” Romans 10:1-4 NKJV

1. Ignorance of God’s righteousness is clearly related to ignorance of actually observing God’s laws (the way He Commands, NOT WITH RELIGION or \*WORKS OF LAW), which is clearly related to ignorance of the true nature of the goal of Christ! [See [these teaching notes](#) for a fuller explanation of this area of Romans 10]
2. \*“Therefore by the **deeds [works] of the law no flesh will be justified** in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. **But now the righteousness of God apart from the law [works of law]** is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, **even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ,**

to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference;" Romans 3:20-22 NKJV

- a) Without faith, attempted obedience to God's laws are called "deeds or works of law" which ironically equates to NOT BEING OBEDIENT. By contrast, a RIGHTEOUSNESS apart from that is achieved by **the same obedience accomplished in a radically different way**, by grace that is empowered by faith in Christ! I call this "Grace Empowered Faith Based Obedience!"
- b) What you are obedient to remains the same; how you are obedient is what has changed.

3. With Christ, "Works of Law" is turned into "Doers of Law"!

(5) "Doers of the Law" in contrast to "Works of Law"

- (a) "(for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, **but the doers of the law will be justified;**"

Romans 2:13 NKJV

- (b) "Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. **But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.**

For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he

is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, **and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.**" James 1:21-25 NKJV

(c) "But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and **I will show you my faith by my works.**" James 2:18 NKJV

1. The "doer of Law" is justified, but not the "worker of law"
2. Be a doer, not just a hearer
3. Hearing without doing is a great deception
4. Faith is demonstrated with doing!
5. And doing is empowered by grace, not human strength.
6. When obedience is empowered by human strength or wisdom it is called legalism, which is the same as disobedience, even if they look the same on paper.
7. In other words, how and why you obey God matters!

### **C. Run from Idolatry**

- (1) Marry a Pagan, Become a Pagan

- (a) **“Nor shall you make marriages with them.** You shall not give your daughter to their son, nor take their daughter for your son. **For they will turn your sons away from following Me, to serve other gods;** so the anger of the LORD will be aroused against you and destroy you suddenly.” Deuteronomy 7:3-4 NKJV
- (2) You have a special calling; don’t blow it with idolatry
- (a) **“But thus you shall deal with them: you shall destroy their altars, and break down their sacred pillars, and cut down their wooden images, and burn their carved images with fire. “For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth.”** Deuteronomy 7:5-6 NKJV
- (b) **“Coming to Him as to a living stone,** rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a **holy priesthood,** to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” I Peter 2:4-5 NKJV
- (c) **“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of**

**darkness into His marvelous light;** who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.” I Peter 2:9-10 NKJV

1. Don't intermarry with pagans; they will corrupt you with their gods
2. Instead, smash all remnants of idolatry in your path
3. Remember, you are a chosen special people
4. And you can easily see that those chosen people are linked to the church by Peter's words

(3) **Your Final Testimony:** Mercy to those who love and obey Him; destruction to those who hate Him

(a) “Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations **with those who love Him and keep His commandments;** and He repays those who hate Him to their face, to destroy them. He will not be slack with him who hates Him; He will repay him to his face.” Deuteronomy 7:9-10 NKJV

(b) **“For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments** are not burdensome.” I John 5:3 NKJV

(c) “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: **Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man’s all. For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing,** Whether good or evil.” Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 NKJV

1. Bottom line: Love Yahweh and Keep His commandments. Can it get any simpler than that?
2. And that is why in the end, this needs to be **YOUR FINAL TESTIMONY (the answer to the second question).**
  - a) The **word of God** and **the testimony of Jesus Christ** (Revelation 1:1-3)
  - b) The **commandments of God** and **the testimony of Jesus Christ** (Revelation 12:17)
  - c) The **commandments of God** and **faith in Jesus** (Revelation 14:12)
  - d) **baptism into Christ** and **teaching them to observe** all things He commanded (Matthew 28:19-20)
3. “**And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved.** And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the



nations, and then the end will come.” Matthew  
24:12-14 NKJV

a) This should now take on a whole new meaning!

## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

### **1. Discuss the seriousness of adding or taking away from the Word of God.**

A. Use Deuteronomy 4:1-2; Matthew 5:17-18; and Revelation 22:18-19 to formulate your answer.

### **2. Discuss the intimate and inseparable relationship between faith and obedience.**

A. How does this effect your witness?

B. What does disobedience say about your love for God?

C. Why does “lawlessness” play such a big part in Y’shua’s teaching about the end days?

### **3. In Matthew 24:13 Y’shua said, “But he who endures to the end shall be saved.”**

A. What does He mean by saved in this passage?

B. What does this mean about the other instances you see the same Greek root translated as saved or salvation in the New Testament?

- C. Contrast this concept of “salvation” with the idea of “redemption.”
- 4. Discuss the testimony and power of obedience as a witness to the pagan world.**
  - 5. Compare the people of Israel hearing the voice of Yahweh at Mt. Sinai to Y’shua’s words in John 10:27. “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.”**
  - 6. Discuss the idea of Yahweh’s promises and all that He asks of you, in order for it to “Go well with you.”**
  - 7. What is the bottom line when it comes to radical obedience to Yahweh.**
    - A. Is it supposed to be difficult?
    - B. Why or why not?
  - 8. Elaborate on why Y’shua referred to Deuteronomy 6:4 when He was asked about the greatest commandment!**
  - 9. When your son asks you in time to come, saying, ‘What is the meaning of the testimonies, the statutes, and the judgments which the LORD our God has commanded you?’**
    - A. What will your answer be?
  - 10. Why does our final testimony relate to both obedience to God’s laws AND faith in Y’shua?**