

FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Deut 6:20-25 concerns parents teaching children in order to develop an appreciation for their heritage.
- B. This was especially necessary since they had NEVER been in bondage in Egypt.
- C. It is impossible for second and third generations to have the same perspective of struggle for truth as the first generation did. All one can hope for is a measure of it and that respect for the struggle will be given.
- D. Before Israel could enter Canaan, they were reminded they stood where they stood because of a previous generation.
- E. We are where we are today because of others. We should be thankful for what we have.
- F. Nevertheless, no matter what generation it is, there are still commandments and promises of God for all. Each generation must comply with the will of God.
- G. The Bible has not changed and will not change Matt 24:35. God is no respecter of persons Rom 2:10-11.
- H. My (and your) children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, etc. will all have to come to grips with the Bible the same way we do today! By submission to it as the power of God unto salvation Jas 4:7; Rom 1:16.

DISCUSSION:

I. COMMANDED TO DO ALL THESE STATUTES.

- A. Every definition assigned to the "statutes" point to an active response required by a given order.
- B. Well understood by Israel that this was required of them.
 - 1. Reaction before the law was given Ex 19:1-8.
 - 2. Reaction after the law was given Ex 24:3.
- C. Notice Psalm 119. Out of 176 verses, there are only 5 that do not mention appreciation for the law and an eagerness to obey it. This should always be our attitude today!
- D. The New Testament also has statutes to be obeyed.
 - 1. Hear Jesus and do His sayings Matt 7:24.
 - 2. Observe all Jesus has commanded Matt 28:20.
 - 3. Commandments of the Lord 1Cor 14:37.
- E. God has never given a law that cannot be followed.
 - 1. Problem was that Israel didn't do it Rom 10:5; Ezek 20:11-13.
 - 2. It can be done EASILY - not greivous, heavy or burdensome 1Jhn 5:2-3.
 - 3. Yet, the law referred to as "yoke of bondage" bondage = enslavement or slavery Gal 5:1.

- a. possibly because of its inability to forgive sin and that without Christ the law had no end.
- b. Nevertheless, Jesus said He had a yoke(that which enables one to pull a load), but it was easy and the burden (the freight or lading of a ship) light Matt 11:28-30.

II. TO FEAR THE LORD OUR GOD.

- A. "Fear" is "respect, awe, reverence." Psa 111:9
- B. Some passages teaching "fear" or reverence for God Psa 34:9; 86:11; 96:4; 112:1; Matt 10:28; Acts 10:2, 22, 34-35; Rev 14:7.
- C. God is to be revered as the God of heaven and earth. We must point out the fallacy of those who want to lower Him from His exalted position by presenting Him as our "buddy" or "Daddy." This concept smacks of irreverence.
- D. This disrespect for God by God's people as well as other religious people spills over into our nation's attitude toward God

III. FOR OUR GOOD ALWAYS.

- A. None of the statutes of God in any dispensation are harmful in any way!
- B. See Psa 73:28; Prov 9:10-12
- C. This is explained excellently in Rom 6:16-23.
- D. God shows us the way to being pure, moral, upright, fair, kind, etc. Who does this harm? No one!

IV. PRESENT US ALIVE.

- A. In the Old Testament it referred to the physical Deut 4:1-4.
- B. In the New Testament we would call attention to spiritual life culminating in eternal life Jhn 10:10; 2Pet 1:10-11; Gal 6:8.

CONCLUSION:

- A. Obey His statutes.
- B. Fear Him.
- C. It is all for your good.
- D. Eternal life is the end.
- E. DO IT TODAY!