

## Deuteronomy Chapter 27:26

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V: 26 “*Cursed be he that confirmeth not all the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen.*”

- Cursed is the man who does not agree with or affirm the Word of God – and to do it.

Affirming and agreeing with God’s word:

**Hebrews 4:11** “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

- God’s word is alive, it’s effective and it can’t be improved upon, it doesn’t need to be tinkered with.

**Psalms 19:7-11** “<sup>7</sup>The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. <sup>8</sup>The statutes of the Lord are right rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. <sup>9</sup>The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. <sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. <sup>11</sup>Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.”

- It is one thing to hear the word of God and to agree with it, to affirm it in our minds, which is the 1<sup>st</sup> step in a process.
- The next step is to allow it to reach our hearts and cause it to be exercised in our daily lives, taking heed to God’s word by actually doing it.

**James 1:22** “But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.”

- By being obedient to do what it says.

**1 John 5:3** “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous.”

- When you love the One you’re serving it is not a burden, it’s a joy!
- This is a call to action!

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- This 12<sup>th</sup> and final curse mentioned in this chapter is all encompassing, it obligated the Jews to obey every law that God gave them, whether it was named in this list or not.

- Paul quotes from this verse in Galatians:

**Galatians 3:10** “<sup>10</sup>For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, cursed is everyone that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.”

- Paul is using, quoting from Deuteronomy to prove that there could be no salvation by obeying the law since nobody could obey everything God commanded.
- But the purpose of the law wasn't salvation, it was condemnation, the indictment / charge that all people are sinners, and therefore the need for all people to trust in Jesus,

**Galatians 3:24** “Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.”

- God uses the law to drive us to the cross.
- The Jews are God's chosen people – those who know the law the best, you would think they would have it dialed in, but they are blinded in part.
- There can be no true conversion without the conviction of sin, and that conviction comes when we see the holiness of God in His law and the sinfulness of our own hearts.

**Romans 3:20** “Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”

- To say that we've kept “some” of God's law isn't good enough.

James tells us:

**James 2:10** “For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.”

- When the Israelites said their “amen!” in response to the curses listed here in Deuteronomy chapter 27 they were assenting to the law of God, promising to obey it, and agreeing that they deserved judgment if they disobeyed it.
- This is not the first time they've gone through this exercise, promising to obey the law of the Lord – then failing to do so.

**Exodus 19:7-8** “<sup>7</sup>And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the Lord commanded him. <sup>8</sup>And all the people answered together, and said, all that the Lord hath spoken we will do...”

**Exodus 24:3** “And Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, all the words which the Lord hath said will we do.”

- The people affirmed God's word, they promised to be obedient and to do it – then we get to Exodus Ch. 32 and the golden calf.
- The desire is there, but the ability to do it isn't.

Isn't this us at times? Am I the only one who finds myself affirming God's word, but then falling short?

Paul continues in Galatians chapter 3:

**Galatians 3:11** “<sup>11</sup>But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, the just shall live by faith.”

- The just shall live by faith – Paul didn't originate this idea – he took it from the Old Testament prophet Habakkuk.

**Habakkuk 2:4** “... but the just shall live by his faith.”

1. Habakkuk lived in a time that was not too much unlike the time we live in now.
2. Habakkuk lived in a time of deteriorating morals, things were bad and seemingly getting worse and so he cried out to God.
3. He complained to the Lord saying - You are not doing anything about it.
4. And he more or less said, I would rather not know what is going on because it's too frustrating to see things, the corruption, and all that is there. To see the thing going down and you're not lifting a hand to stop it.
5. God responded to the prophet. I am doing a work in your day and if I would I tell you what I am doing, your ears would tingle.
6. So the Lord began to share with Habakkuk, His intention of bringing the Babylonians as His instrument of judgment against the nation of Judah.
7. The prophet cried out, Lord, wait a minute, that's not fair! We're bad! Yes! But they are much worse than we are. Why would You use a more wicked nation to punish Your people?
8. Habakkuk said, I don't understand it. I'm just going to go in my tower and I'm going to sit and wait and to see what you are going to do.
9. And as he was sitting in the tower waiting to see what God would do, the Word of the Lord came to Habakkuk, the prophet, saying,
10. **Habakkuk 2:4** “The just shall live by faith.”
11. In other words, Habakkuk, you are just going to have to trust me. You're not going to understand. You're going to see things that are going to shake you, but the just shall live by faith.

Later the writer of Hebrews would tell us:

**Hebrews 11:6** “But without faith it is impossible to please Him...”

Paul teaches us:

**Ephesians 2:8-9** “<sup>8</sup>For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: <sup>9</sup>Not of works, lest any man should boast.”

- God’s grace, His un-merited favor – knowing that there’s no amount of sacrifice or any other work that can be done to obtain salvation, resting in the completed work of the cross.
- Trusting God at his word.
- What does God’s word say?
- <sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup> were all sinners, we’ve all fallen short of God’s perfect standard.

**Romans 3:10** “As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one.”

**Romans 3:23** “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”

- <sup>2<sup>nd</sup></sup> there is a consequence to our sin:

**Romans 6:23** “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

- <sup>3<sup>rd</sup></sup> there is a solution to our sin:

**John 3:16** “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

- <sup>4<sup>th</sup></sup> there is only One solution to our sin:

**John 14:6** “Jesus said, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by Me.”

- <sup>5<sup>th</sup></sup> God loves us and He receives us just the way we are in our wretched state:

**Romans 5:8** “But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

- <sup>6<sup>th</sup></sup> All we need to do is believe in our hearts and confess with our lips:

**Romans 10:9-13** “<sup>9</sup>That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. <sup>11</sup>For the scripture saith, whosoever believeth on Him shall not be ashamed. <sup>12</sup>For there is no difference between the

Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him.  
<sup>13</sup>For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

- 7<sup>th</sup> & finally:

“The just shall live by faith” – And all the people shall say – Amen!