

Gleanings from the Pentateuch

"The Shema" Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (pt 2)

The Shema

Deuteronomy 6:4-6

"Hear (*shema*), O Israel, the LORD our God; the LORD is one!

And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

And these words which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart;

The Shema

1. Fundamental Affirmation

➤ *"Yahweh our God; Yahweh alone!"*

2. Fundamental Obligation

➤ *"Love Yahweh your God"*

3. Fundamental Application

➤ *"These words shall be on your heart"*

The Shema (pt 2)

"These words shall be on your heart"

(1) Internalizing of God's words

(2) Centrality of God's words

The Shema (pt 2)

Centrality of God's Word

1. The necessity of teaching God's words in the home

- The home is an essential context for instruction in God's words
- It is the responsibility of parents to diligently teach God's words to their children

The Shema (pt 2)

Centrality of God's Word

2. The necessity of constant reflection on God's words in the course of everyday life

- God's words are to be the topic of conversation throughout the day
- Assumes that parents are intimately acquainted with God's words

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Centrality of God's Word

3. The necessity of application of God's words to every sphere of life

- hands/forehead – individual
- doorposts – the family
- gates – the community

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Illustration (6:20-25)

Q: "What is the significance of the Law?"

A: Two-fold

- The story of their redemption by God
- The beneficial value of the Law

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Principle:

Ground all your teaching of God's word in the gospel of Jesus Christ