

November 23, 2025
Fully Committed

Session 12
Deuteronomy 30:11-20

Intro: This lesson helped me focus on my commitment to Christ our Lord. What is commitment anyway? It has to do with how a person spends their time and resources. Commitments have obligations. What we are committed to may take away some of our choices regarding what we would rather do. Commitment may require a sacrifice of some freedoms. Our western highly-individualized-personal pleasure-seeking-culture seeks to be “commitment free.” We like to do what we want and when we want to do it. We live in a throw-away society. If a person is tired or bored with a job or thing, they tend to find a new job or replace the thing. The average length of time a person stays in the same job today is around four years. In the United States, the average person moves eleven times in their lifetime. As we grow in Christ, our commitment should grow also. Our lives are to be characterized by a wholehearted commitment to God. A large part of this commitment to God is expressed in holiness, the pursuit of righteousness. So I asked myself, and I invite you to share the same questions: How committed am I to God? In what ways does that commitment share my day-to-day life? How committed am I to sharing the gospel?

Follow the rules and stay on the path (Deuteronomy 30:6-10) in Bible

To choose God through committing themselves to the covenant and wholeheartedly living it out in the land would be to choose life. Moses can't say it enough, how essential it is to love the Lord with all one's hearts and with all one's soul. Loving God makes it easier to follow Him. God's jealousy is justified. He is the only God! Anything else is human fabrication and imagination. The benefits of following God's plan are vast. He will put curses on the enemy. The Lord will rejoice over us for good as He rejoiced over Israel's fathers. Don't you want to please God by obeying Him? He rejoices over us!

The Command (Deuteronomy 30:11-14) p. 111

Moses encouraged the Israelites to pledge themselves anew to God as His chosen people. He reminded them that keeping up their end of the covenant with God was not too difficult for them. God's commands were to be in their hearts. Obedience was something all the people could do. God's command was not beyond reach or inaccessible, only to be found in heaven. God gave the people the law. At Mount Sinai, God provided them with His law so that they knew what was expected of them as they lived in a covenant relationship with Him. The God of Israel had not only revealed Himself to the Israelites; His Word, a perfect treasure of divine instruction, had been delivered personally to Israel through Moses. The people could not claim (nor can we) either ignorance or inability in regard to the law. It is the covenant relationship between God and the Israelites that provided the accessibility and nearness of God and His Word to Israel.

God's nearness made Israel distinct among the nations. **Deuteronomy 4:7-8** *"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 [from God] which I set before you this day?"* They had a choice, and so do we: to be responsible for how we live, either in relationship with God or in the (worldly) idolatrous worship and service of the pagan gods (worldly distractions).

Vs. 14 Our God is not remote or unattainable. God has not left us an incoherent rambling of disconnected thoughts and teachings. He has given us a unified single message. It proclaims God's redeeming, forgiving, restoring, and reestablishing His relationship with we who are fallen. The Lord Jesus established the new covenant through His death, being the sacrifice for our sins. Our righteousness comes by faith in Christ. **Romans 10:4** *"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes."* There is no need to travel to heaven to bring the Word to earth because Jesus, the incarnate Word of God, has come from heaven to earth. When we confessed Christ as our Savior, we were permanently given His perfect righteousness, eternal life, and the indwelling Holy Spirit. So we are empowered by His Holy Spirit to live according to God's law, not to earn salvation but in gratitude for receiving salvation through faith in Christ.

The Commitment (Deuteronomy) 30:15-18) p. 112

Moses entreated the people to choose a life of blessing. They were to love God and walk in His ways. By doing so, God would bless them in the promised land. Turning away from God and worshipping other gods would lead to judgment. Their days in Canaan would be cut short. There was stark contrast in the options set before the Israelites: life and prosperity or death and adversity. The key to experiencing life and prosperity was connected to obedience. God had clearly laid out before the Israelites what was required to live in covenant relationship with Him. God's expectation was that the Israelites would return His love by obediently walking in His ways and keeping His law. To love and obey was to walk in God's ways and keep His commands, statutes, and ordinances. **John 14:22-23** *"Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, 'Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?'"* Jesus answered and said to him, *"If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him."* The world will see God through those who obey Him. Like the Israelites, we are accountable to God for how we choose to live our lives—with Him or apart from Him.

Vs. 17 There would be consequences for those whose heart turns away from, and for those who do not listen to, the Lord. Instead of walking in His ways, such individuals would be led astray to other gods. The consequences for such idolatry would be severe. Moses entreated the Israelites to choose God and a life of blessing. However, a life of blessing did not make the Israelites immune from

all the difficulties and tragedies of life, and the same is true for us today. Also we are not immune from the lure and temptation to follow false gods. The false gods of today do not look like statues. False gods of success, pleasure, and wealth can rob us of our health, ethical principles and morality. It is important to remember that for us, idols are not necessarily statues but rather anything that captures the affections of our hearts other than God. What captures our hearts directs our lives. The Christian life is a life of commitment to Christ. This is not our eternal home. **Matthew 6:19-20** *“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasure in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.”*

The Challenge (Deuteronomy) 30:19-20) p. 115

When heaven and earth were called as witnesses to the treatise, the decision had a formality and finality with implications for all creation. They would bear silent witness in the future to the faithfulness of the people in living out their choice. When God makes a promise, He swore by Himself because there is no one greater than God. **Hebrews 6:13** *“For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself.”* God wanted to show His unchangeable purpose even more clearly to the heirs of the promise, and He guaranteed it with an oath. To choose life was to choose God Himself and to hold fast to the promises He gave. Life is loving God, listening to God, and having loyalty to God. However, life is not found in the law itself, but in the God who gave it. Ultimately, the LORD is our life. God's command to choose life finds particular expression in the person of His Messiah Jesus Christ. **John 1:4** *“In Him [Jesus] was life, and the life was the light of men.”* Jesus promised that He would give this life to those who believe in Him. If we truly love Jesus, we will keep His commandments not to gain His love. God already proved His love for us through Jesus's life, death, and resurrection. Our obedience to God is proof that we have truly experienced His love by grace through faith in Christ alone. Christ is the climax and fulfilment of the Old Testament promises of salvation. It is only in Him that we can live to love and honor God faithfully. It is only by God that our days will be prolonged forever with Him in eternity as He has promised. If Christians today are lax about following Jesus, the next generation will be even more so. If we treat God's commands as optional, the next generation will see them as unnecessary. Commitment to God and commitment to God's church are two great needs in our day. God calls us to respond “today.” His mercies are new each morning. Every morning we are given breath, we are given a chance to recommit ourselves to our God. The decisions we make each day, and the lessons we pass on each day, have implications for eternity.