

Remembering Our God!

"These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised you. Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates." - Deuteronomy 6:1-9

The Purpose for This Series:

1. To understand our heritage as Christians.
2. To accept the concept of placing God's Word on our hearts.
3. To see God's plan for remembering, fulfilling and even teaching His Word.

What Have We Learned?

1. The *Shema* — Our God is one.
 - He is to be loved completely — (Heart, soul and strength)
 - His commands are to be on our hearts.
2. God expects us to teach our children.
 - Our teaching should make an impression.
 - Our teaching should be a natural part of life.

Today's Passage

"Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates." - Deuteronomy 6:8,9

The Subject — You (It is understood.)

The Verbs — Tie, bind, write

The Object — Them (The Scriptures; God's Word; His commands)

The Locations — On Your... hands, forehead, doorframes and gates

Two Ways to Understand this Passage:

1. It is literal.
2. It is figurative.

Which interpretation is correct? Both!

The Jewish Response to this Passage:

1. Phylacteries — (or Tefillin)

"Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads." - v. 8

- They are leather straps and a small box containing the Scriptures and are used on the hands, arms and head.

- Jesus once referred to these. What was He saying?

"Everything they do is done for men to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long..." - Matthew 23:5

2. Mezuzah —

"Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates." - v. 9

- They are small boxes (tubes) attached to the doorframe and contain Scripture.
- They are touched when people enter or exit a room.
- The reminder — that you love the Lord and His Law.

How Should Christians Deal with this Passage?

1. It is command to place reminders on your body and in your home so that you will remember what you have learned.
 - It is not a witness to the world but a reminder to you.
 - What kind of reminders do you need?
 - On yourself?
 - In your home?
2. It is a figurative way to say that we should remember the commands and laws of our Lord...
 - In our actions (hands)
 - In our thinking (forehead)
 - In our daily life in the community (doorframes)
 - In our travels (gates)

How Will You Apply What You've Learned?

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The Subject — _____ (It is understood.)

The Verbs — Tie, bind, _____

The Object — _____ (The Scriptures; God's Word; His commands)

The Locations — On _____... hands, forehead, doorframes and gates

Two Ways to Understand this Passage:

1. It is _____.
2. It is _____.

Which interpretation is correct? _____

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