

New Year's Challenge

Deuteronomy 17:14-20

January 3, 2010

Summary: Even as Jesus, the Incarnate Word, depended upon the written Word, so should we all the more. When the Israelites insisted on having a king, the Lord was able to use even this mistake for His good. The king was not to thrive on his power, his pleasures or his wealth, but instead to immerse himself in the Word of God. From this we find that true success is to love God with all our hearts, to humble ourselves and to fear the Lord so that we lead by an example of obedience to Him.

1. A. Who was Jesus and what was He like during His ministry?
Matthew 7:28-29, 13:54, 22:41-46, John 1:1 & 14, Hebrews 1:2-3, 4:14-15

- B. In what fashion did Jesus depend upon the Word of God during His lifetime?
Matthew 4:1-4, 12:1-7, 19:3-6, 22:29-33, John 17:4

- C. If Jesus, the incarnate Word of God in the flesh, built His life and ministry by depending on the written Word of God, should not we all the more?
Joshua 1:7-8, Psalm 1:2-3, John 15:4-5, Colossians 3:15-17

2. A. Read Deuteronomy 17:14-15. Why did God's people insist on an earthly king, and was this right?
I Samuel 8:4-9 and verse 19

- B. How was God able to take this gross mistake and use it for His glory?
Isaiah 9:6-7, Daniel 4:17, Matthew 1:1

- C. Is that not a great encouragement for all of us, that God can take our own blunders and make good come out of them? How has God done that in your own life?
Psalm 103:10-14, Romans 8:28-29, I Peter 2:24-25

3. A. What were the three things the king of Israel was **not** to do?
Deuteronomy 17:16-17
- B. Notice the phrase, "*Lest his heart turn away.*" What do you think God is concerned about here?
Deuteronomy 6:5, Exodus 20:1-3, Joshua 22:5, Proverbs 4:23, Matthew 6:19-21 & 24, Revelation 2:4
- C. How can we be on guard against losing our first love; that fervent love for our beloved Savior Jesus Christ?
Psalm 119:9-11, 145:1-7, John 14:21, I John 1:9, 2:13-17

4. A. What was the king **supposed to do** on a regular basis?
Deuteronomy 17:18
- B. What made writing out the Scriptures so important?
Deuteronomy 17:19-20
- C. What makes this requirement so important for us today?
John 15:7-12