

<p><b>A. INTRODUCTION.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ To what extent, do we obey God’s commands and laws in our daily lives?</li> <li>❖ How can we remain faithful and obey his commands?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Explanation</b></li> <li>▶ “<b>Ratification</b>” essentially means that the <i>covenant</i> is put into action.</li> </ul>
<p><b>B. LITERAL CONTEXT.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The breakdown of Moses’ lengthy exposition on the laws and commands from Deuteronomy 5:1–26:15).</li> <li>▶ Moses set forth his expectations for the Israelites’ life before they enter into the Promised Land of Canaan.</li> <li>▶ The text is broken into <i>two</i> parts:</li> <li>▶ Present mutual commitments made by             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Israelites (vv.16–17)</b> and,</li> <li>• <b>The LORD God (vv. 18–19).</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Explanation</b></li> <li>▶ See attached <u>leaflet</u> on the <b>breakdown</b>.</li> <li>• Satisfactory relationship with God is not determined by creedal confessions or external laws, but by one’s <i>commitment</i> to fulfilling God’s covenant will.</li> </ul>
<p><b>1. Israel declares (vv. 16–17):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ In this “<i>marriage ceremony</i>” vv.16-17 highlights the Israelites’ <i>commitment</i> to God’s decrees, commands and laws (v.16) and keeping them (v.17).</li> </ul>	
<p><b>2. God declares (vv. 18–19):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The Israelites were chosen as <i>God’s people, his treasured possession</i> if they obeyed his commands (v.18).</li> <li>▶ The Israelites were <i>consecrated as holy, praised and honored</i> above all nations (v.19).</li> </ul>	
<p><b>C. WHY COVENANT RATIFICATION IS ESSENTIAL?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Today’s text is an <i>additional</i> ratification to Exodus 24:7 for two primary reasons.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Explanation</b></li> <li>1. The covenant ratification is addressed to the new generation; &amp;</li> <li>2. Also, to a new leadership under Joshua.</li> </ul>
<p><b>D. 3 REFLECTION QUESTIONS.</b></p> <p>1) Do you find it challenging to <b>conscientiously</b> obey God’s commands, decrees, and laws with your heart and soul? Why?</p> <p>2) What hinders you from being fully <b>committed</b> to the LORD in all areas of our lives, in obeying him, keeping his commands, and listening to him?</p> <p>3) As God’s <b>consecrated</b> people, how do you see Jesus in your daily life, work, relationships, challenges, and moments of silence and prayer?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Ask for God’s grace to help you.</li> <li>▶ Encourage one another to love God and People in a <i>dignified</i> way.</li> <li>▶ Seek the Holy Spirit to empower us.</li> <li>▶ Live in gratitude to God, acknowledging that your life is shaped by His holiness, as you are consecrated to live under Christ’s lordship.</li> </ul>

**E. CLOSING.**

Reflect on the **3Cs**: *Conscientiously*, *Committed* and *Consecrated* in keeping God's covenant agreement.

When we fail to do so, we return to the and contemplate God's selfless love for us.

**DEUTERONOMY 5: 1 – 29: 9 (the breakdown of the *Laws*, Source: WBC 2001)****A. Laws on giving the Ten Commandments & holiness practices (5:1–7:11).****B. Laws on life in the Promised Land (7:12–11:25).****C. Laws on Human Affairs in Relation to God (11:26–16:17):**

- Includes Laws that ensure Exclusive Worship of God – No Idolatry (12:1–13:18)
- Laws of Holiness in Matters of Daily Life (14:1–21)
- Laws on Periodic Measures to Provide for the Poor – Social Ethics (14:22 – 15:23)
- Laws on the Pilgrimage Festivals (16:1-17).

**D. Laws on Leadership and Authority in Ancient Israel (16:18–21:9):**

- Includes laws on Justice & forbidden worship practices (16:18–17:13)
- Law of the King (17:14-20)
- Law of the Levitical Priests (18:1-8)
- Law of the Prophets (18:9-22)
- Law concerning the Courts – Judicial & Military Matters (19:1–21:9).

**E. Forty-three Laws on Human Affairs in Relation to Others (21:10–25:19):**

- Three Laws on Marriage & Family (21:10–21)
- Ten Laws on “True Religion” and Illicit Mixtures (21:22–22:12)
- Seven Laws on Marriage and Sexual Misconduct (22:13-30)
- Seven Laws on “True Religion” (23:1-25)
- Sixteen Laws on Marriage, War, and “True Religion” (24:1–25:19)

**F. Law on Public Worship & Covenant Renewal (26:1 –29:9):**

- Law on Firstfruits and Tithes (26:1–15)
- **Mutual Commitments between God and Israel in Covenant Renewal (26:16-19)**
- Writing the Torah on Stones & Covenant Renewal at Shechem (27:1-26)
- If You Keep Covenant (28:1–29:1)
- Remembering the Past (29:2-9)