**Hear the Scriptures (Deuteronomy 31:9-13)**

Greetings to you dear brothers and sisters in Christ, as we continue to get a taste of the Bible’s many books, step by step. The book of Deuteronomy is a summary of the books of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers. Within this book, we often see lists of curses as well as blessings. The blessings are always contingent upon the obedience shown by the people of God. Along with these, we also find instructions related to spiritual life. Today, we are going to consider a piece of instruction given by Moses towards the end of the book, focused on the Law of the God, which is simply the public reading of the Word. Today’s message is taken from that exact piece of advice, which invites the people of God not forget to hear the Word of God. Therefore, based on the above, God’s message is the following: “Let every generation hear and be instructed by the Word of God which leads to a relationship with Him.” Let us speak, then, about this important command…

*For us believers, hearing the Word of God is the means of growth for our lives.* How often we speak about reading the Bible! Today’s passage shows us that no matter how much God strengthens and leads us through direct supernatural experiences, we still need to hear the Word of God, both recited and read.

The Israelites had become quite familiar with God’s miracles. From the very beginning, God had spoken to them directly, He had performed miracles, and He had led them out of their slavery through those signs. However, we see that they were constantly in a forgetful state throughout their journey with God. Their hearts were only temporarily being filled with faith. As soon as some time would pass after a major miracle, they would forget God’s teachings and His will for them. They needed to hear the Word not only once in a while when a miracle was performed, but rather, often, during (at least!) every festival and opportunity for gathering as a community.

This is like a relationship in which two people madly in love with each other live far from each other. Yes, today’s telephones and other gadgets do bring them closer (to a degree), but how much will those two get to know each other if they don’t, at the very least, hear each other’s voice frequently. It is not enough for them to connect with each other once in a while; rather, they must make an effort to either meet with each other or hear each other frequently.

Today, we also sometimes forget the importance of the Word of God in our lives. Despite the fact that the Israelites were told to gather on holidays and hear the Word, we find in history that they also, each family, had felt the need to build their own household worship altar or table within their house in a dedicated corner. Their spiritual hunger was not going to be satisfied by simply going to Jerusalem a few times a year.

*Dearly beloved, our personal altar is the Bible itself! Our Tent of Meeting with God are the words and teachings of the Scriptures, from the Old Testament to the New.* Let us not forget to read them and after having benefited from the instructions, to pass on that Life to the following generations. If you want to keep your relationship with God aflame, you are required to put aside time specifically dedicated to the Reading of Scripture within your household. For us believers, hearing the Word of God is the means of growth for our lives. Let every generation hear and be instructed by the Word of God, which leads to a relationship with Him.

My prayer is that God would place a hunger for His Word within you, that you may not be tired nor bored of reading His Word. May the Lord Bless you. Amen.