

Deuteronomy 8.1-10

Recap of sermon series:

- 1. The Wow Factor live in accordance to what we know of God (his faithfulness)
- 2. Remember God's awesomeness should inspire us to be faithful to him
- 3. Hear, O Israel God's commands as instructions for us to live
- 4. Taken! a holy people separated for God
- 5. No Pity! show no mercy to things that displace Jesus from the centre of our life

Name origin	Named by Henry D. Washburn, Sep 18, 1870
Location	Upper Geyser Basin, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming
Elevation	7,349 feet (2,240 m)
Type	Cone geyser
Eruption height	106 feet (32 m) to 185 feet (56 m)
Frequency	45 to 125 minutes
Duration	1.5 to 5 minutes
Discharge	3,700 US gallons (14 m ³) to 8,400 US gallons (32 m ³)

Why do we lose our sense of gratitude?

Why do we lose our spiritual glow we used to have as a younger Christian and begin to overlook God's goodness?

8.1 Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land the Lord promised on oath to your ancestors.

'Be careful' (Hebrew *shamar*) – keep, observe (465 occurrences in the Bible, 65 in Deuteronomy)

8.2 Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to **humble and test** you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands.

'humble and test' = a disciplining process

8.3 He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with **manna**, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

- 'manna' (Hebrew man) = 'what is it?'
- Hunger met by miraculous provision

- 8.4 Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years.
- God's miraculous preservation

Jesus' wilderness experience (Matt 4.1-11)

- the life-giving Word of God

8.5,6 Know then in your heart that **as a man disciplines his son**, so the Lord your God disciplines you. Observe the commands of the Lord your God, **walking in obedience** to him and **revering him**.

- Heart attitude

"Circumstances don't make a person,

They reveal a person." ~ E. Stanley Jones

Robert Solomon ~

In this passage the difficult years that Israel experienced wandering in the desert for 40 years are contrasted with the plentiful years that they were about to experience in the Promised Land. In adversity they were tested to reveal what sort of people they were, whether they would still obey the Lord (v 2). Most of their disobedient forefathers failed the test, dying along the way. Now, entering the Promised Land, they would be tested not by adversity but by prosperity. The poor may be tempted to stop trusting God and steal, thus breaking God's law. The rich may disown God. The temptation, in either case, is to forget the Lord. The Lord must be remembered in the slums as well as in the palaces. We must remember God in both adversity and prosperity, because he is the One who rescues us and provides for all our needs.

8.7-9 For the Lord your God is bringing you into a **good** land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills.

- From wilderness to a land of fertility: food, water, resources

8.10 When you have eaten and are satisfied, **praise the Lord** your God for the good land he has given you.

- Continual gratitude comes from looking beyond our blessing to our unfailing source, the Lord.

<u>KEY TAKE-AWAYS</u>

> Everyday with the Lord

The place of the Deuteronomic call *shamar*

> Everyday with Jesus

1. Prayer life – A.C.T.S.

A life of gratitude & thanksgiving
Not to lose sight that many of life's blessings are God's
gifts and thanksgiving

2. Spiritual nourishment

Feed on God's Word daily, remember it, apply it Jesus our example: he did not yield to temptations

3. Discipleship

Carry the cross daily