

Vayelech

וַיֵּלֶךְ



“And he went”

Then Moshe went and spoke
these words to all Yisra'el.
Deuteronomy 31:1

In this week's Parasha Moshe (Moses) went and spoke to all of Yisra'el (Israel) before he died at the age of 120 years. Moshe explained to Yisra'el that the LORD had told him that he would not cross over the Yarden (Jordan) River with them to take possession of the Land of Promise.

Moshe assured the nation of Yisra'el that the Lord God Himself would cross over the Yarden before them. He would destroy the nations in the land so that they could drive them out and possess it. God would do the same thing to these nations that He had done to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites, when He destroyed them.

Moshe commanded the people to have courage and be strong! He told them not to fear the enemy because the LORD God would be with them.

Moshe called Yehoshua (Joshua) to him in the sight of all the people. He told Yehoshua to be strong and of good courage because he would go with the people to the land which the LORD had sworn to their fathers He would give them. Yehoshua would lead the descendants of Avraham (Abraham), Yitzchak (Isaac) and Ya'kov (Jacob) to inherit the Land of Promise. Moshe told Yehoshua that the LORD God would go before them, causing all these things to happen. Moshe commanded Yehoshua not to fear or be dismayed because the LORD God would not leave them nor forsake them. After Moshe went and spoke all these words to Yisra'el he wrote this law and delivered it to the priests, the sons of Levi, and to all the elders of Yisra'el.

First Pray

Father God,

You alone are God, the Creator and Sustainer of everything. We praise You because You deserve all glory, honor and praise. Please guide us to totally depend upon You in every aspect of our lives. Teach us to be strong and courageous as we humble ourselves in submission to Your authority. Help us to stay focused on Your Word and Your Will with no regard for the enemy. Please enable us to hide Your Word in our hearts so that we do not sin against You. May Your Will be done on earth as it is in heaven. All these things we ask in the Name of Yeshua, our LORD and Savior. Amen

Next Read

Deuteronomy 31:1-10

~ Focus Passage of Scripture ~

Deuteronomy 31:10-30

In Deuteronomy 31:10-13 we learn while in the sight of all the people of Yisra'el, Moshe commanded the priests, who bore the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD, and all the elders of Yisra'el saying:

“At the end of every seven years, at the appointed time in the year of release, at the Feast of Tabernacles, when all Yisra'el comes to appear before the LORD your God in the place which He chooses, you shall read this law before all Yisra'el in their hearing.”

Deuteronomy 31:10-11

Moshe instructed the priests and the elders of Yisra'el to gather the people together when they dwelt in the Promised Land including men, women, children and the stranger within their gates to read the words of the law to them. They were to do this once every seven years. As the land rested during the Shmita year, they would have to depend upon God to provide for their needs. Hearing the words of the law during this time of faith and dependence upon God would assist them in learning to fear Him. By knowing and carefully obeying the Law of God they would be protected by Him from all forms of evil. Reading the law at this time during the seventh year would also serve to teach their children who were born to them in the land to fear the LORD God. To fear God is to make Him the top priority in one's life. This is an expectation of God for His redeemed people.

In Deuteronomy 31:14-17 God informed Moshe that he must soon die. He commanded him to call Yehoshua and stand before Him in the Tabernacle of Meeting so that He could inaugurate Yehoshua as the leader of Yisra'el, following his death.

The LORD appeared at the Tabernacle in a pillar of cloud that stood above the doorway. The LORD spoke to Moshe, informing him of what would happen in the future to Yisra'el after Moshe died. God told Moshe that the people of Yisra'el would follow after the people in the land and worship idols instead of upholding their covenant with Him, the One and Only God. The LORD told Moshe that this betrayal by the people would cause His anger to be aroused against them, and He would forsake them, hiding His face from them until they were devoured by their enemies. Many evils and troubles would befall them to make them realize that they were no longer protected by God because He was no longer among them.





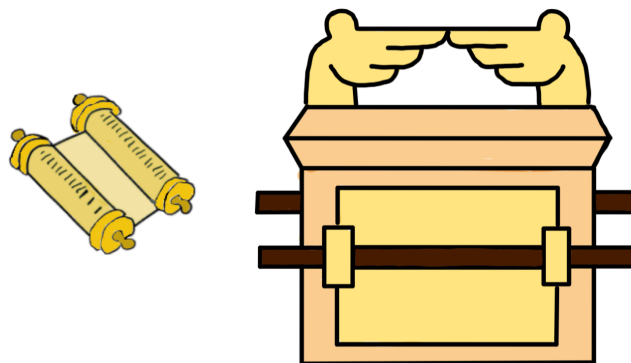
In Deuteronomy 31:18-21 God informed Moshe that He would surely hide His face from the Children of Yisra'el in the future for all the evil they would do. He commanded Moshe to write a song and teach it to the Children of Yisra'el to be a witness for God in their mouths.

The LORD God informed Moshe that after the Children of Yisra'el inherited the land God gave them to possess, the land He swore to their fathers to give them, they would become idolatrous. They would fill themselves with the produce of the land that God made flow with milk and honey and become fat! They would provoke God to anger against them by breaking their covenant with Him, turning away from Him to serve other gods! The LORD God would remove His hand of protection and provision from them as they served the false gods of the nations, making many evils and troubles come upon them. The song God commanded Moshe to write would be a testimony against them and a witness to all who sing it or hear it of their great sin against God.

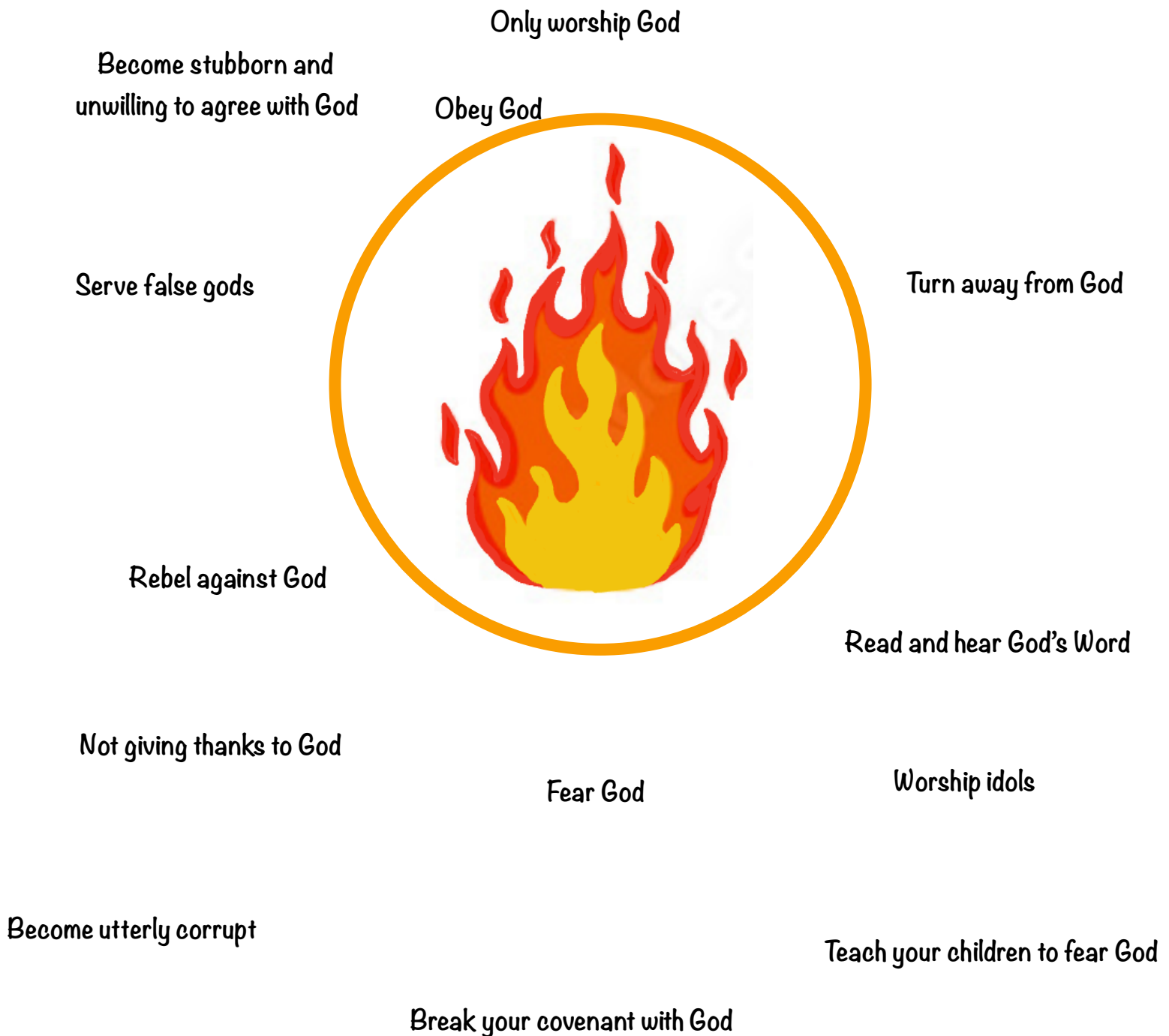
In Deuteronomy 31:22-30 we find that Moshe obeyed God by doing everything He had commanded him to do. He wrote the song that day and taught it to the Children of Yisra'el. He inaugurated Yehoshua the son of Nun and commanded him with the words of God saying,

“Be strong and of good courage; for you shall bring the Children of Yisra'el into the land of which I swore to them, and I will be with you.” Deuteronomy 31:23

When Moshe, the prophet of God, had done all that the LORD God commanded him to do, he completed writing the Book of the Law and put it beside the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD. He spoke to the Children of Yisra'el, telling them that the Book of the Law would serve as a witness against them because he knew they were a rebellious and stubborn people. Moshe told them to bring the elders of their tribes and their officers to him so that he could speak these words for them to hear as he called heaven and earth to witness against them. Furthermore, he told them that he knew after he died they would become utterly corrupt, turning away from the way he had commanded them to live. He told them that because they would do evil in the sight of the LORD to provoke Him to anger through the work of their hands, evil would befall them in the latter days. When Moshe was finished prophesying the words of God, he spoke all the words of the song for them to hear.

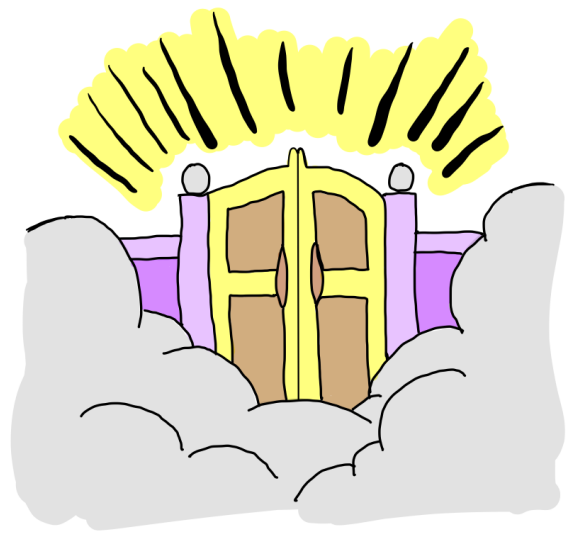


Directions: Draw a line from each phrase to the fire below which describes something that provokes God to anger against His redeemed people



Haftarah

Isaiah 55:6-56:8



In this week's Haftarah Yeshayahu, a prophet of God, explained that one should seek the LORD while He can be found. Whenever someone has the opportunity to respond to the Gospel message and place their trust in Messiah Yeshua, they should not delay. They should immediately call upon God to receive salvation while He is near. The one who has walked away from God in pursuit of his own wicked desires should turn from his evil path and return to the LORD. When anyone repents of their evil ways and returns to the LORD God, He is faithful to extend His mercy and grace by forgiving their sinful behavior.

It is not possible for us to understand the ways and thoughts of God because His ways and His thoughts are higher than ours. Our ways and thoughts are inferior to His because they originate in this world of darkness where we live. In contrast the ways and thoughts of God demonstrate His Glory in the Kingdom of heaven.

Just as the rain and snow come down from heaven and do not return in order to abundantly bless the earth, so does the Word of God proceed from Him in heaven to abundantly bless His Children. The rain and snow saturate the earth to enable it to give its good produce to sustain life. In the same way God's Word that proceeds from His mouth does not return to Him without producing its purposed outcome. The Word of God has power to give, protect and sustain life. His Word proceeds from His mouth to achieve His purposes. It does what He desires to accomplish by His righteous will.

When the Kingdom of God is established on earth, we will go out with gladness and be led by the will of God in perfect peace. The mountains and the hills will be changed to acknowledge God. They will break forth into singing, and the trees of the field will clap their hands. A cypress tree will come up instead of the thorn, and a Myrtle tree will come up instead of the brier. God will restore the world when His Kingdom is established on earth. This restoration will testify to His Name or character and will be an eternal sign for all to witness.

Since the Kingdom of God will be a reality on earth in the future, it is important to have a Kingdom mindset to prepare us for the eternal Kingdom experience. God commands us to keep His commandments and keep His justice. When we agree with God by keeping His judgments and justice we are able to demonstrate His righteousness. When we value and guard the commandments of God then, and only then, can we demonstrate the righteousness of God. The Salvation of God at the end of days will simply and clearly reveal His righteousness on earth forever.

Blessed and happy is the one who keeps the Sabbath by applying it to their lives! When those who have been redeemed by God observe the Sabbaths of God defined by His Word, He will keep them from performing all forms of evil. Just as the snow and rain sent to earth by God from heaven does not return to Him but produces physical satisfaction and sustenance for life, so do the Sabbaths of God set at their appointed times not return to Him but produce spiritual satisfaction and sustenance to experience Kingdom life on earth. When we apply Sabbath truth to our lives, not only does this truth act within us to sanctify us by keeping our hand from doing evil, but it allows us to taste the goodness and joy of the Kingdom of God before we fully experience it, both physically and spiritually at Yeshua's return to earth.

The LORD God's Sabbaths are not only for the Jew! At creation when God had finished speaking into existence all things and the power of the Holy Spirit had placed them in His perfect order, He rested. He created a day of rest for all His creation. The Sabbaths of God are for the Gentile as well as the Jew. No one born outside the Jewish nation, which was miraculously created by God for a purpose, should say to himself that the LORD's Sabbaths have no relevance in their lives. The Gentile who has joined himself to the LORD should never think or say such things! Even the eunuch who has sinned against God by choosing the things of the world over the purposes of God should not think or say that the LORD's Sabbaths have no relevance for him. All who have been redeemed by God should observe the Sabbaths of the LORD whether Jew, Gentile or the eunuch who is a Jew or Gentile. The LORD has said that even the eunuchs who choose to observe the LORD's Sabbaths, which He delights in, are holding onto the covenant of God through their behavior. When we are led by the Holy Spirit of God to observe His Holy Sabbaths, we are taking Biblical truth and applying it to our lives.

The LORD God will welcome all those who repent of their wrong choices in the past and return to Him. The LORD God delights in renewing the repentant sinner to a right relationship with Him in order to serve and worship Him in the way that is pleasing to Him. He will give to that one His house of intimacy and His walls of protection. He will give them an eternal name and hope that will not be cut off. Their reputation will be known by their commitment to Him.

The Gentile who attaches himself to God to serve Him because he loves Him will obey His commandment to observe His Holy Sabbaths. Observing the LORD's Sabbaths demonstrates to the world that one is holding on to the promises and covenant of God.

During the Millennial Kingdom of God, He will bring the one who keeps His Sabbaths to His Holy Mountain. He will delight in the burnt offerings and sacrifices they make on His altar. His house will be called a House of Prayer for all people from every nation. The LORD God declares that He will gather up the outcast of Yisra'el along with others He has chosen from the nations to experience His Kingdom on earth. They will demonstrate His Glory in the Land of Yisra'el during the Millennial Kingdom reign of Messiah Yeshua.

Directions: Draw a line from each phrase to the circle of the LORD's Sabbaths which expresses an outcome associated with observing the Sabbaths of the LORD.

Allows us to behave in a way that demonstrates we love God

Demonstrates to the world we are holding on to the promises and covenant of God

Allows us to worship and serve God in the way that pleases Him

Obtains righteousness through works

Makes us Jewish

Allows us to experience spiritual satisfaction and joy

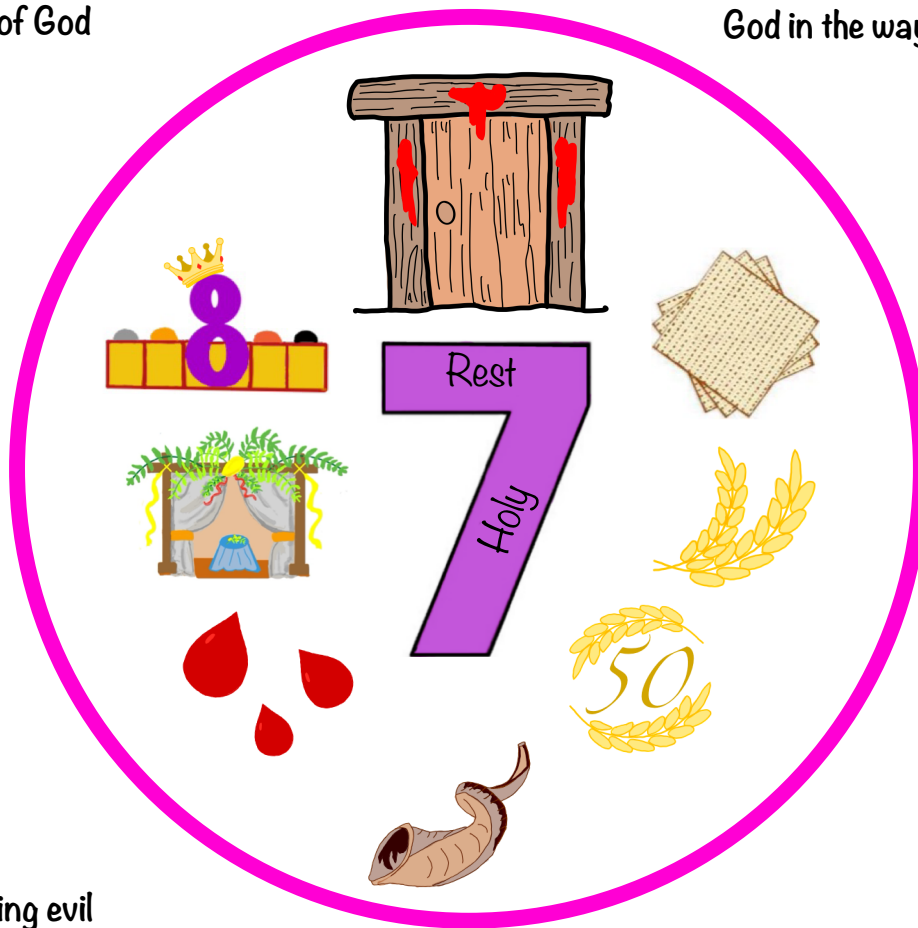
Makes us blessed and happy

Guards us against doing evil

Applies Biblical truth to our lives

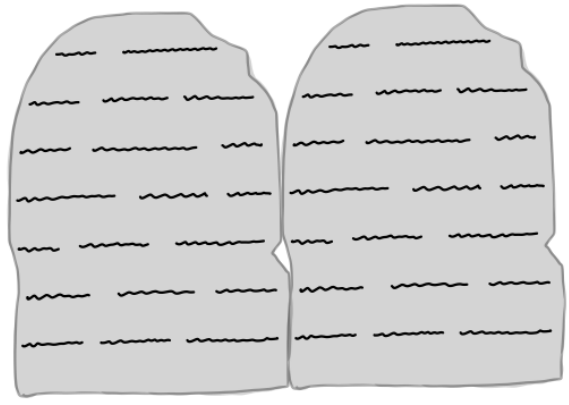
Puts us under the curse of the law

Removes the work of redemption Yeshua completed on the cross



New Testament

Romans 7:6-12



In this week's New Testament passage of Scripture the apostle Shaul (Paul) explained to believers who had been redeemed by the blood of Messiah Yeshua the importance of walking in the Spirit of the Law of God. Messiah Yeshua came from heaven into the world to die in our place to take the punishment of the law, which is death. Because of His great suffering and sacrifice to redeem us from death we are no longer under the curse of the law. When we trust in His work of redemption for our sin, we are given the gift of the Holy Spirit to dwell within us. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth Who leads us into all righteousness and allows us to walk in the Spirit of the Law of God.

Shaul stated in Romans 7:6 that although the believer in Messiah Yeshua has been released from the condemnation of the law, it still has relevance in the believer's life. In our new state of freedom we can now serve God in the newness of the Spirit and not according to the letter of the law which demands we die to pay the consequences for our sin.

Based upon this knowledge, should we conclude that the law is bad? Shaul explained that this should never be! The law is holy, righteous and good! It teaches us what is right, and what is wrong in the sight of God. Without the law we could not determine what sin is. Sin identified by the commandments of the law produces within our sinful nature the desire to do what is against the truth of God. Even though we behaved sinfully before the law of God was given, we were unaware of its consequences. Only through the commandments of the Law of God does one understand that the consequence of sin is death. The law teaches us our need for forgiveness. It teaches us that we need to seek redemption through faith in Messiah Yeshua for Salvation.

Sin deceives a person and leads them to eternal death. If one applies the law to their life without faith in the saving work of Messiah Yeshua, the outcome is eternal death! The law and its commandments from God is holy, righteous and good. It ministers to one, leading them to understand the need for redemption and guides them to seek forgiveness through the precious Blood of Messiah Yeshua. Once a person has been set free from the condemnation of the law through the saving grace of God, the law remains relevant in the believer's life as an instrument of sanctification. As we strive to walk in the Spirit of the law, we are able to demonstrate our love for God and our thankfulness for all the great things He has done.

Directions: Draw a line from each phrase to the tablets and scroll of the written law that describes the relevance of the law in the believer's life today.

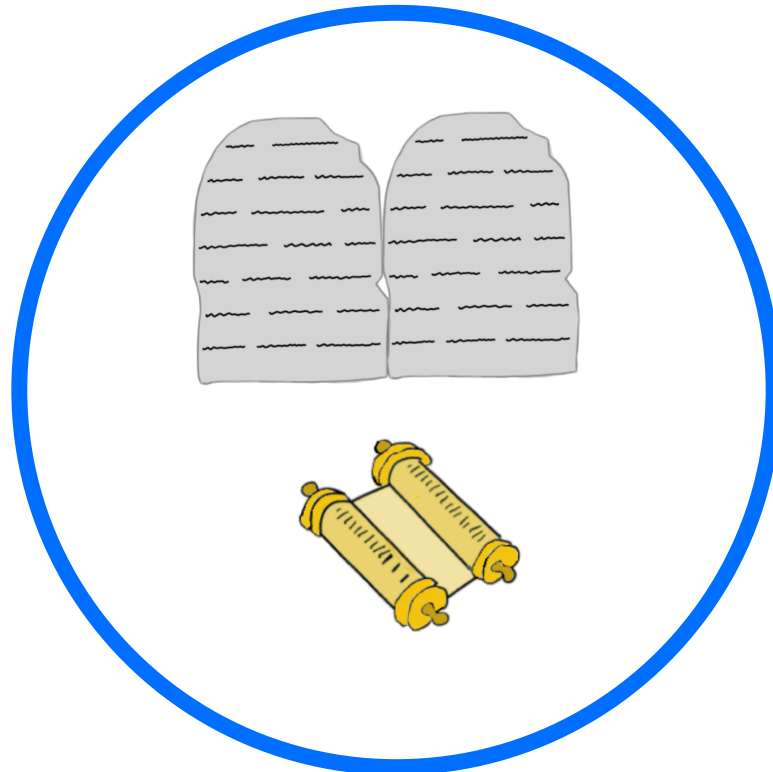
It gives us eternal life

It teaches us what
sin is

It makes us righteous

It guides us to seek
forgiveness

It allows us to demonstrate
our love for God through
obedience



It reveals the consequence
of sin is death

It saves us when
we obey it

It reveals our need
for Salvation

It is holy, righteous
and good

It allows us to
become a child of God