Parashah 46 ‘Ekev - 'Because"

Torah: D'varim (Deutoronomy) 7:12-11:25
Aliyah 1 - 7:12 -8:10  Obedience brings blessing, prosperity, fruitfulness; the Land is good, satisfying
Aliyah 2 - 8:11 - 9:3  Warning not to forget what God’s commands; idolatry leads to death
Aliyah 4 - 9:4 - 29  Remembering Mt. Sinai - the 1st stone tablets, the golden calf, God’s promises
Aliyah 5 - 10:1 - 11  The 2nd stone tablets, the Ark, service of Levi’im, command to possess the land
Aliyah 6 - 10:12 - 11:9  Circumcision of the heart; love foreigners; obedience brings strength
Aliyah 7 - 11:10 - 21  Listen, serve, remember and teach; it is God who brings prosperity in the land
Aliyah 7 - 11:22 - 25  Obey and love God; He will expel inhabitants of the land, put fear in their hearts

Haftarah: Yesha’yahu (Isaiah) 49:14-51:3

1. (7:12) In one word, what is the foundation for the blessings described in the opening ailyah? What happens to all the illness that is removed from the obedient? (7:15)

2. (8:2-3) What do we learn about the process of being tested? (8:2) What does being "hungry" help us understand?

3. (8:5-6) How are "discipline" and "fear of God" connected? What does it mean to "fear God?"

4. (8:10) Is it good to be "satisfied?" Should we bless God before or after we are "satisfied?" Why?

5. (8:11) Moshe reminds the people not to forget God. What leads to this forgetfulness? Is forgetfulness inevitable?

6. (9:5) What two reasons does Moshe give for the Israelites to take possession of the land? How many times does Moshe speak of the people's righteousness? How does this speak of our righteousness and God's grace?

8. (10:14) How big is God's Kingdom? How should the Israelites view "the foreigner?"

9. (10:20) There are four mitzvot in verse 20. What are they, and what do they mean to you?

Questions for reflection and application:

1. (7:12) Do you listen to God? Do you obey? What is the result of what you hear? (Joh 5:39, Jam 1:22, Joh 15:10, Rom 2:11-13, 2Ti 2:14-15)

2. (8:11) Do you remember God in your prosperity? In your poverty? What has He done for you? (Col 1:16-17, Ecc 11:9, Pro 5:11, Isa 1:28, Act 17:26-31)

3. (9:4) Do you take what God gives, or do you take credit for what God gives? (Gen 15:16, Eze 36:22, 32, Tit 3:3-5, Eph 2:8-9, Psa 115:1-3, 1Pe 1:3-5)


6. (11:10) The Kingdom of Heaven is not like the kingdom of this world. Do you have one foot in both, or are both your feet firmly planted in One? (Rev 3:15-19, Act 17:26-27, Isa 58:11-12, Joh 17:14-16)