## **Turn From the Grave**

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Date: 26 February 2017 Preacher: David Liu

[0:00] Good morning, brothers and sisters. My name is David. I'm one of the staff here at Watermark, and I'm responsible for the Mandarin ministry.

And Karen is my co-worker here. So I'm thankful for her so that you can understand what I'm saying here today.

Today is the last message in our series on Deuteronomy. When we think back over Deuteronomy, we see that God has made a covenant with the people of Israel.

He's given them His sacred law. It speaks of God's holiness, righteousness, love and compassion.

Not only did He give them this law, and He told them how they ought to love one another. How they should care for the widows and orphans and foreigners among them.

[1:25] And He even told them how they ought to celebrate and party. You know, we can always review and go back and listen to the previous sermons in this series.

Today, we see that the people of Israel, they need to turn back to God.

This is a weird feeling. Because where are they now? And we think this is so strange, because what is the situation that they are in? Because they are in the situation that they are in.

They are in the place of the Lord. They immediately enter the place of the Lord. Actually, they are just outside of the promised land. They are about to enter into the promised land. But in the Bible, they are in the promised land.

And why is this passage talking about turning back? This is like a couple of married married to a couple of married.

[2:25] They say, It's as though you are telling people who are about to get married.

In the future, when you are about to get divorced, this is how you repair the relationship. Because here, Moses is saying to the people who are about to enter in the promised land, After you go into exile, this is what you should do.

In the future, it reminds us how, in God's perspective, A day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.

I like a movie. There is a movie that I like. There is a type of movie that I like.

For example, Back to the Future. Like The Wife of the Time Traveler. Recently, there is a movie that I like.

[3:36] Some amazing professor. Dr. Strange. Sorry, Dr. Strange. So, in Dr. Strange, there is a treasure.

He can see the past and future. It enables him to see the past and the future.

If you have this treasure, I see the wall on the table. If you look at the wall, it's a wall. You know, if you were to look into it, at my future, you would see I'm Apollo Bones.

If you look at it from this angle, then I'm a baby. Now, we see the following. It says, it's a few hundred years. And we feel a little bit like this when we're looking at this passage today.

You just look at it a little bit, and it's as though we fast-forwarded hundreds of years. Hundreds of years after Israel entered the promised land, they betrayed God, and God allowed them to go into exile.

[4:53] But God gave them an amazing promise. And as I thought about this promise, I thought it was, it's really an amazing promise.

Because in human relationships, it is very rare to find this kind of a promise. Like, for example, if you have a dating couple, or even good friends, the relationship among good friends, if one party offends and does a lot of things against the other party, what typically happens is the other party gets really mad and doesn't want to have anything to do with the first offending party.

In most situations, when one party offends the other party, even if the first party wants to come back and be reconciled, the offended party may or may not be willing to continue the relationship.

But the God that we see in this passage of Scripture, He's very different. When the Israelites went to the other party, after they were beaten, the other party, the other party would still tell them to go back.

Even though Israel has offended God, has gone and worshipped idols, has betrayed God, but God says to them, turn back to me. This is the context.

This is what precedes our passage of Scripture today. We need to turn back, return to the Lord. Leave the path to death and return to the path of life.

And return to our God. Let's look at our passage today.

In verse 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, it repeats and repeats the concept of turning back, restoring, turning again.

In the original language, this is the same word repeated again and again. In both the Chinese and English translations, different words are used in these six verses, but the original text, it was the same word.

In verse 1, in the ESV translates it, call them to mind. In verse 2, it says return.

[8:03] In verse 3, it uses the word restore and He'll gather you again. The 8th is in verse 8, in English, it uses the word again.

The 9th is in verse 9, it uses the word again. In verse 9, but in the original language, the term is this idea of turning, returning.

God's promise is, after the people of Israel have been exiled, that if the people of Israel turn back to God, God will turn back to them.

In verse 3, it says, then the Lord your God will turn back. He'll restore your fortunes.

■,■■■■■■,■■■■■■■■■■■■■■. This God, this holy God, it is amazing that He would turn back to the people of Israel.

[9:19] It's amazing. If it's amazing. Again, we think about the illustration of marriage. If one party offends the other party.

If it's amazing. Now let's say the party that the offending party. Let's say that he or she turned back.

Next 10 years. You have to clean. If it's amazing. You have to clean. I think that person will have to do the dishes in the house for the next 10 years. And we can't buy a dishwasher.

But God here says if you turn back I will turn back. Now the theme in the New Testament one theme in the New Testament is a theme of repentance.

Our Lord Jesus He starts out His ministry and He says repent for the kingdom of God is near.

[10:35] God tells us here that we can always repent we can always turn back and He is here waiting for us to turn back to Him. Now what are we turning from and what are we turning to?

We need to turn from idols and we need to turn to God's word. In verse 8 it says and you shall again obey the voice of the Lord and keep all His commandments.

your heart and with all your soul and you obey the voice of the Lord your God

and you need to keep His commandments and His statutes.

maybe in our society today we don't talk a lot about idols How do we understand idols?

Or we might have a very simplified understanding of the concept of idols

I would be a very simplified understanding of the concept of idols

I would be a very simplified understanding of the concept of idols

I would be a very simplified understanding of the concept of idols

> When I used this tool I was wondering Oh, I wonder what kind of idols I tend to manufacture 
>
> And I had my wife take a look for me too What are my idols
>
> Because when I was looking through this I was like Wow, all of these are idols in my heart
>
> But my wife She knows me so well She's like Comfort is clearly your idol
>
> Tool know, brothers and sisters We can take some time examine our hearts And think about What are idols
>
> What desires What things tend to draw us away from God

We need to turn from these idols And turn to God MANAGE Now let's talk a little bit About What we need to turn from MANAGE We see here God says Turn to my word MANAGE WE WE WOULD HE WAS AND HE WOULD HE WAS AND WOULD HE WOULD HE

Because when I want to try to understand God's word

I feel like I need to put in a lot of effort

I need to spend a lot of time and study and try to understand What is

God really trying to say in this passage

I need to spend a lot of time and study and try to understand What is

But the people of Israel They were so blessed

I was in their own language

When I'm studying the scripture Oh it had to have been translated into Chinese translated into English

This word It was in their language

And it was in their mouth And it was in their heart But what does it mean That this word was in their heart? God told them to keep on meditating on To keep on thinking on And repeating these words Until these words were in their hearts

And until God's word became part of their lives

When we go to Israel today We find, for example Many many Jewish people At the wailing wall And they're repeating repeating, repeating, repeating God's words

Until God's words are in their hearts

Now all of us We spend different amounts of time And use different methods To read God's word 

God's word 

God's word 

God's word God's word enters into our lives 

God's With all your God With all your God With all your heart And with all your soul

Commandments You love me WHINE WHINE WHINE What can we do If we want to love God?

We can love His commandments I mean when a human being is standing next to you Maybe it's easier to understand how to love them I mean when a God Who you can't see I mean I mean I mean when a human being is standing next to you Maybe it's easier to understand how to love them I mean I maybe it's also very difficult I mean I mean

How to better love my children And so I attended a parenting seminar This is how you spell the word love

T-I-M-E WHALL What does this mean?

Whatever you love You're going to spend time on spend time biking You're going to spend time hiking with them Also if you love your spouse You're going to spend time with them Also if you love your spouse You're going to spend time with them And so for me I realized If I want to love my children I need to spend time with them And for me I realized That if I use this standard I don't love my kids that much

Are we putting His word into our hearts?

Are we putting His word on our lips?

In our mouths? And speaking God's word to one another And even teaching one another And Event Ev

And this is the way that God tells us 

I Since God has so loved us

I He's given us the Bible Which has all

I the words that we need for life and godliness

I He's given us the Bible Which has all

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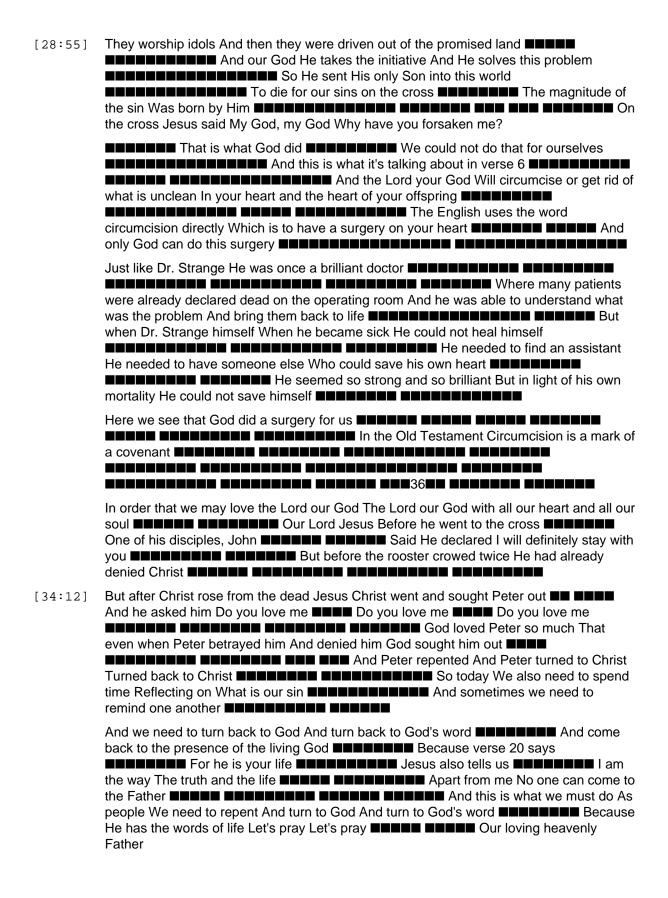
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> He had owned 
> Was living in these ways Like he didn't know really What he was living for 
> He divorced his wife 
> Was living in these ways Like he didn't know really What he was living for 
> He divorced his wife 
> Was also going through a lot of struggles from all of his addictions Be it to drugs alcohol or sex
>
> WAS ALSO WAS ALSO

And he even put a lot of effort into pursuing his wife back As he turned to God He spent time in God's word As word And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with others And how he spends a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with his how he had a lot of his time actually sharing God's word with his how he had how he had how he had how he had

When they come over There's God in your house There's a sense of peace in your home There's God in your house This is what it means to turn back And it's related to repenting This is what it means to turn back If we're living in sin We cannot be living with God who is holy There's a sense of peace in your home There's God in your house This is what it means to turn back There's a sense of peace in your home T



We thank you Real Even when we were still sinners You sent the Lord Jesus Christ To come to earth And To save us We were helpless sinners So that we can know you Real So that we can know you Real So that your words into our hearts And also to speak your words to others And to take this path of life that you've given us

Thank you Lord ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ we pray Amen Amen Correct ■■ screens oud And always ■■ oud