

March 14 Answers

- 1) Moses' Second Sermon — Part 1a (Deut 5–6: General covenant obligations). This sermon focused on the **covenant** God made with Israel at Mount Sinai, and it called the people to covenant **loyalty** and obedience. Moses emphasized that the covenant had been made with the **nation** of Israel, and thus it applied to **all** Israelites for generations to come (Deut 5:3). Moses repeated the Ten Commandments which God had spoken audibly from the mountain, and he recalled how pleased God was when the people **feared** Him and wanted to obey. Moses then gave them the greatest commandment: “You shall **love** the LORD your God with all your **heart** and with all your **soul** and with all your **might**” (Deut 6:5; Matt 22:37–38). Moses continued by pointing out that loving God meant **teaching** His words to their children and being diligent to **explain** why His laws were the foundation of their lives. As Christians, we too have entered into a covenant relationship with God. This covenant is the **New** Covenant spoken of by Jeremiah and mediated through the blood of God's Son, Jesus Christ (cf. Jer 31:31–34; Heb 8). This covenant also has **rules** and guidelines for our behavior, namely, loving God and loving others (cf. Matt 22:34–40). Jesus echoed Moses' call to covenant loyalty and obedience when He instituted the New Covenant (cf. John 14:15), and He made it clear that we would fulfill all the Mosaic Covenant required if we put His law of love into daily practice (Matt 7:12; Rom 13:9–10; Gal 5:14).