

May 27, 2018 Mt. 28: 16-20 & Dt. 4: 32: 34, 39-40

[www.theark1.com](http://www.theark1.com)

Connie May © 4/20/18

Link to [Beck](#) (paywall) other [Beck](#)

Stone, Naomi. [A Day of Freedom](#)

Rolheiser, Fr. Ron. [The Richness of the Mystery of God](#)

[Monastery Sunday Homilies](#)

[TRINITARIAN SPIRITUALITY](#)



Dt. 4: 32 For ask now of the days past, which were before thee, since the day that G-d created man upon the earth, and from the one end of heaven unto the other, whether there hath been any such thing as this great thing is, or hath been heard like it? [33](#) Did ever a people hear the voice of G-d speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live? [34](#) Or hath G-d assayed to go and take Him a nation from the midst of another nation, by trials, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by an outstretched arm, and by great terrors, according to all that HaShem your G-d did for you in Egypt before thine eyes?

[35](#) Unto thee it was shown, that thou mightiest know that HaShem, He is G-d; there is none else beside Him. [36](#) Out of heaven He made thee to hear His voice, that He might instruct thee; and upon earth He made thee to see His great fire; and thou didst hear His words out of the midst of the fire. [37](#) And because He loved thy fathers, and chose their seed after them, and brought thee

out with His presence, with His great power, out of Egypt, [38](#) to drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou, to bring thee in, to give thee their land for an inheritance, as it is this day;

[39](#) know this day, and lay it to thy heart, that HaShem, He is G-d in heaven above and upon the earth beneath; there is none else. [40](#) And thou shalt keep His statutes, and His commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the land, which HaShem thy G-d giveth thee, for ever.

#### Modern Rabbinic translation

Dt. 4: 32 You might inquire about times long past, going back to the time that God created man on earth, [exploring] one end of the heavens to the other. See if anything as great as this has ever happened, or if the like has ever been heard. 33 Has any nation ever heard God speaking out of fire, as you have, and still survived? 34 Has God ever [done miracles](#) bringing one nation out of another nation with such tremendous miracles, signs, wonders, war, a [mighty hand and outstretched arm](#), and terrifying phenomena, as God did for you in Egypt before your very eyes? 35 You are the ones who have been shown, so that you will know that God is the [Supreme Being](#), and there is none besides Him. 36 From the heavens, He let you hear His voice admonishing you, and on earth He showed you His great fire, so that you heard His words from the fire. 37 From the heavens, He let you hear His voice admonishing you, and on earth He showed you His great fire, so that you heard His words from the fire. 38 He will drive away before you nations that are greater and stronger than you, so as to bring you to their lands, and give them to you as a heritage, as [He is doing] today. 39 Realize it today and ponder it in your heart: God is the Supreme Being in heaven above and on the earth beneath - there is no other. 40 Keep His decrees and commandments that I am presenting to you today, so that He will be good to you and your children after you. Then you will endure for a long time in the land that God your Lord is giving you for all time.

#### COMMENTARY:

Deuteronomy This term occurs in Deut., xvii, 18 and Jos., viii, 32, and is the title of one of the five books of the Pentateuch. In both passages it renders the Latin *Deuteronomium*, the Greek *deuteronomion*, the Hebrew *mshnh*, and signifies "copy" or "duplicate" rather than "repetition". The texts themselves appear to demand this meaning; for Deut., xvii, 18 reads: "But after he is raised to the throne of his kingdom, he shall copy out to himself the Deuteronomy of this law in a volume, taking the copy of the priests of the Levitical tribe"; and Jos., viii, 32 relates: "And he wrote upon stones the Deuteronomy of the law of Moses, which he had ordered before the children of Israel." The Targum of the latter passage favours the same meaning. As title of the fifth book of the Pentateuch, *Deuteronomy* corresponds to the Hebrew *alh hrvrys*. Pseudo-Athanasius maintains that the title signifies "the second law" promulgated by Moses in accordance with the Divine precept. But it is more commonly understood as meaning "explanation" of the law, or "exhortation" inducing to the observance of the law.