

Deuteronomy Lesson 13



Application and Results of
Obeying and Disobeying God

Chapter 19

- Application of principles already given.
- Moses reminds them again of how they received the land of promise.
- Deuteronomy is one of the best books in the Bible to show that a gift given does not mean it is unconditional.
- Verse 4 begins a discussion of the sacredness of human life.
- The person fleeing to a city of refuge had to be innocent of murder if he was to enjoy protection in the city of refuge (verse 10)



- Remove not the landmarks. This had to do with the sustenance of a person's life and the reason why it is placed here. The land was given by God and one could not go and move his neighbor's landmark. (verse 14).
- Verse 15 the importance of giving truthful testimony.



Chapter 20

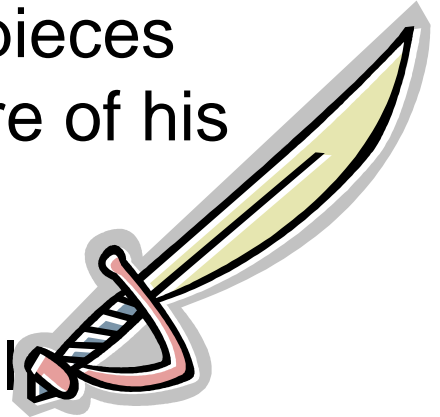
- Laws concerning warfare. Important to remember in Canaan this wasn't warfare as usual. Genesis 15:13-16 their receiving the land is

related to the sin of the people of Canaan. This is a judicial action of God.

- Sometimes the Bible is misunderstood because people forget this.



- I Samuel 15:33 Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before the Lord n Gilgal. While the nature of his death is tied to the culture of the day the reason, behind it was in the judgment of God, they were to be destroyed and Saul spared him. Saul and now Samuel were the instruments of God's justice. No one can escape God's justice.
- Israel becomes God's instrument of justice in conquering the land of Canaan because the sins of the Amorites are now full.
- God did not give the land of Canaan to Israel because He liked them over everybody else.



- Verse 2 Instead of a captain over an army the leader in battle was to be the priest. Does this not show the nature of the battle.
- Verse 4 God was to go before them in battle and if someone attacked them God would help them.
- Verse 10 As they go forth they were to proclaim peace. They were to be a representative of God to a world that had forgotten God. If they accepted the peace then they were to become a tribute to them.



Chapter 21

- Additional instructions given concerning the sacredness of life and the importance of being innocent.
- If one found a body and no one knows who murdered him then the city of refuge had a responsibility of freeing the land from the blood of the innocent.
- The priest was to offer sacrifice so they could be freed from responsibility.
- The city of refuge was not a haven for criminals and a person who fled to the city had to prove his innocence.

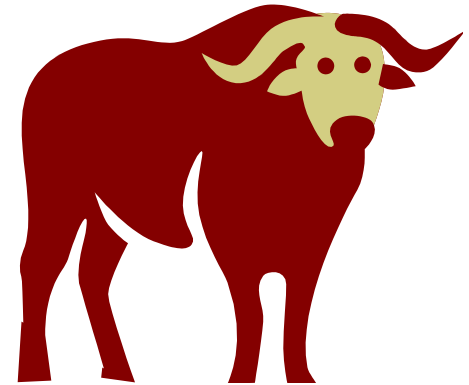


- What is the point of the land recognizing the importance of the sacredness of life?
- In the Old Testament when people lost the sacredness of human life it led to the judgment of God against the land or nation.
- It is a real cause of concern for our own nation concerning the value of human life which is failed to be recognized today by so many.

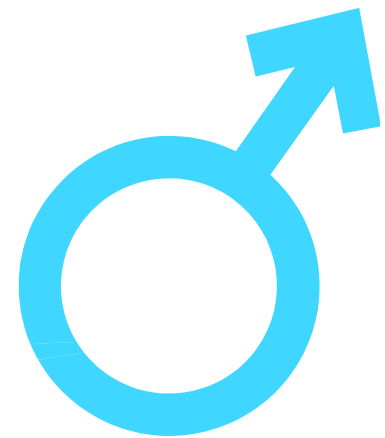
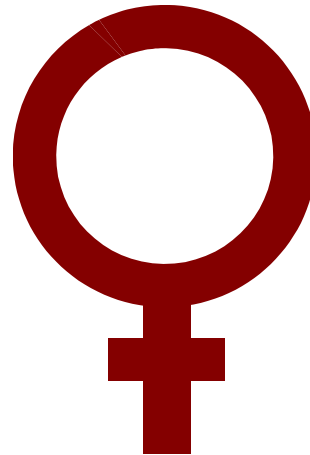


Chapter 22

- The proper understanding of love causes one to recognize his responsibilities to others.
- Verse 1 If neighbor's ox or sheep got out he could not look the other way.
- Did you see it? Yes but I didn't do anything to harm it. We are not called just to do no harm but to see to the good and welfare of others. That principle is still just as true.



- Verse 4 The very fact we are the people of God we do not look at things from a selfish standpoint. We are not to be idle bystanders. “I don’t want to get involved.”
- Galatians 6:1ff.
- Verse 5 Maintain a difference between the sexes. (I Corinthian 11; I Timothy 2:10-12; I Corinthians 6:9-11

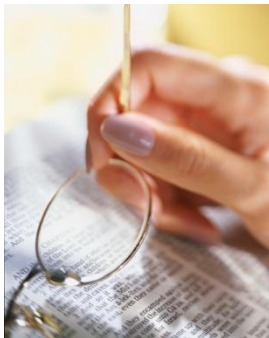


Chapter 23

- Instructions given concerning those who could enter into the place of worship.
- The separation and its regulations given to Israel called for them to be separate but not for contempt or a matter of arbitration from other people. It is difficult sometimes for people to understand the reason for separation.
- Love does not mean that we love everybody to the point we ignore sin.
- Separation as God called for was based on principles of His revelation not hatred.



- The land of Canaan as an inheritance for Israel was not to be a haven for impure people. God gives them instruction for setting up an altar when they arrive in the land first thing.
- The call for an altar is an indication that they will fail and not be perfect people.
- There is a difference between imperfect people and impure people.
- It is the same today in the church. We are imperfect but we are not to be impure people.



Chapters 24-26

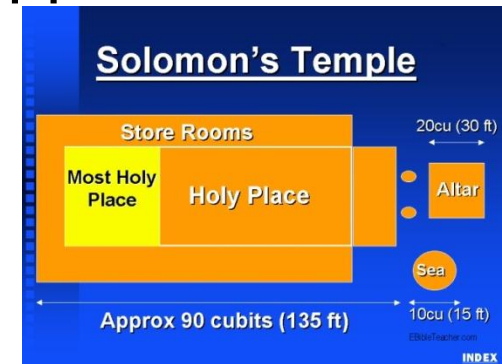


- Chapter 24 Moses makes regulations concerning divorce which was misapplied by the Jews. Moses made no commands of divorce but suffered it and gave some instructions for the protection of women.
- While the woman is put away she may go and marry another man but is in significant in verse 4 were it reads “she is defiled.”
- Obviously that when she marries another when she is put away it is not considered adultery for adultery carries the penalty of death as described by the law. However, it is not altogether innocent either because she is “defiled.” Also the husband could not decide to take her back. (Read Adam Clark’s comment on the passage)

- Chapter 25 Moses gives a list of things that is important in order to please God.
- Verse 1 Fair and justice must be the principles they live by as does God.
- Verse 17,18 Remember Amalek and what he did to Israel upon leaving Egypt. The key to understand why God would return vengeance on him was “he feared not God.”
- The opposite of that statement “he who fears God” means acceptance of the God of Abraham.



- In chapter 26 we have the conclusion of the second discourse of Moses and the proper approach to God in worship.
- Verse 2 God would select the place of worship. The problem in Canaan is it characterized by idolatry that was usually located in high places.
- Verse 12 The tithes mentioned here were to be given every third year not to be confused with tithes given every year. It was given for the Levites, stranger, fatherless, and widow. Here is God's concern for the less fortunate, also for the stranger, not a proselyte. Some today think that the church should only be concern for the saint. Even Judaism included helping those who were strangers or Gentiles. Why? Loving God creates a heart of benevolence.



- Verse 13 When he brought his gift – first fruits to the priest he was to acknowledge “I have done all as you have commanded.”
- Can we come to the assembly with that confession?
- “I have done as you have commanded now bless me”
- Do we think no matter how we have lived during the week we can come into the assembly and ask for a blessing? Can or will He? What does God expect of me?



Chapter 27

- This begins the last discourse of Moses and is a transitional chapter. The last few chapters are important in understanding what happened to the nation of Israel throughout their history.
- Verse 3 Write down the words of the law on stones. God is giving the land but it is conditional. This reminds them to keep the commandments and obey God.
- Verse 4 It is interesting however, they will not be perfect, so God has them to build an altar on Mount Ebal indicating their inability to keep the law and the means of receiving forgiveness.



- Verses 9-10 They are to recognize as they enter the land they represent God.

- Verses 11-20 They are to have six representatives of six tribes on Mt Gerizim and six on Mt. Ebal. The Blessings of God on one mountain and the Curses on the other mountain and the Law read and they are to say AMEN.

Other Nations

- ◆ Canaanites
- ◆ Hittites
- ◆ Philistines
- ◆ Phoenicians
- ◆ Moabites
- ◆ Ammonites
- ◆ Edomites
- ◆ Midianites



Chapter 28

- This chapter is prophetic of the future of the nation.
- This last discourse by inspiration sees the departure of the nation from obedience to God and their captivity.
- Verse 1 It is God's intention that the nation through obedience to Him would reflect a light to the rest of the world. In doing so God set them above all nations so they could see the difference between Israel's God and idols of the other nations.



- Verse 2 other nations would then see and understand God's love and goodness not only in the deliverance from Egyptian bondage but of His continued blessings based on their obedience to Him.
- Verses 9-10 All nations of the earth will know and be afraid – Israel's God is different from idols. The intention was for them to see so they would lay aside their idols and accept Israel's God.
- Verse 15 However, if they disobeyed then the other nations will see and understand also that God is just.

- This places a great responsibility upon Israel so that when the nation turned aside from obeying God what is God going to do, how does that affect the promise?
- Is He going to be just and punish them because of their sin?
- Or is He going to over look their sin because of the promise and arbitrarily bless them in the land against His nature?
- It is not possible for God to bless them regardless how they live. So emphasis is given to both blessings and curses and it is up to them to choose which one they want.

- 28:36-37 This is God's judgment against Israel – thus it becomes a witness to the rest of the world. The rest of the chapter will show why this will happen.
- I Kings 9:7-9
- Thus when God made the promise to Abraham He was not obligated to bless Israel regardless how they lived.
- Even pagan nations would see and understand you don't just live anyway you want to and continue to have blessings from Israel's God. You might think that from idols but not from God

- 28:43 If the nation of Israel decided that because of the promise it didn't matter how they lived and they were better than other people it was not true because they will find themselves with the stranger (Gentile) above them. (Ezra 9:5-8)
- 28:45-49 Curses are pointed out due to disobedience. Here is the mention of a tongue as a sign which had to do with a foreign nation. (Genesis 11; Isaiah 28:8-12; I Corinthians 14:22)

- Deuteronomy is a spiritual commentary on how one generation had failed and also how future generations could avoid failure and how to succeed.
- This book contains principles of spirituality.
- This is the reason why Jesus quotes from it in Matthew 4 and why it is so prevalent in the New Testament.
- Thus it gives us the motivation to want to be spiritual and the principles of how to develop spirituality.

- Moses now sets forth the principles of when they failed in obedience how they can be restored. It will of necessity involve GRACE.
- You would think that it served as Israel's motivation but they misunderstood and became ungrateful.
- When God separated Israel from other nations it wasn't just for their own good, he intended them to be a light unto the other nations.
- So if they failed in their mission how could they continue to be a light unto the world?

Chapter 29

- Verse 21-24 Show that the other nations understood that the God of Abraham led these people out of Egypt. God had made a nation out of them. The God of Israel is not the same as the god of pagan nations.
- Verse 25 When the nation of Israel found their land in famine or carried into captivity other nations will ask “What in the world has happen? Then they answer God has done it because they have forsaken the covenant he made with them

- Verse 26-28 God intended to show that He did not ignore sin even in His own people and the rest of the world would see it. In view of that, how can anyone say that God promised the land of Canaan to Israel unconditionally.
- The Jews accept the first five books of the Bible. This is in their Bible.

