

## Session 31

### Deuteronomy III

**Ch 14** : You are a people that are a special treasure of all people on the earth.  
Can't be like the pagans; no cutting or shaving which were signs of mourning.  
Signs of hopeless death; not worthy of God's children.

Restates the dietary law for type of animal that may be eaten.

Tithe must be taken to LORD's House. If too far, can sell for money.

Every third year tithe was for Levite, widows and orphans.

**Ch 15** : release of debt every **seventh** year (Sabbatical). Related to Sabbath. Called the LORD's release; in honor of God.

Seventh year the land rest also. But no excuse not to help the poor. Still have to feed them and give to the needy.

**Ch 16**: Passover must be celebrated. Seven days of unleavened bread. Bread of affliction; came out of Egypt in haste. Memorial. Paschal lamb must be consumed all in one night.

Change in place of sacrifice: in Egypt it was in individual houses. In the wilderness and tent and later Jerusalem, it was in a place the LORD would designate – the court of tabernacle or temple. Blood had to be sprinkled on the altar.

Then back to your tents or houses.

Seventh day is a solemn feast to the LORD.

Feast of Weeks – Pentecost. 7 weeks from Feast of First Fruits. First appearance of the barley. Offered to God. Then at Pentecost first appearance of the wheat. Offered to God.

Also give a free will offering based on what the LORD has blessed you with. Share sacrificial meals with the poor and needy.

Remember all these statutes because they were once slaves in Egypt.

Feast of Tabernacles at conclusion of the harvest. God would provide harvest of food for joyous celebration. Again, the poor were to be included.  
Seven day sacred feast.

All men must appear at 3 feasts: Passover, Feast of Weeks (Pentecost), and Feast of Tabernacles. Must bring offerings according to their blessings.

**Ch 17:** If a person has worshipped idols, sun, moon or stars and it is proven, they are to be stoned. 2 or 3 witnesses. Witnesses throw first stones. Put evil away from you. Stoned outside the camp or the city.

Idolatry denied the Lordship of God. Worst violation of the Law.

If a case is too difficult to decide, the priests are the final court. The sentence they give must be carried out. Precursor of the Sanhedrin.

If the people want a king when they get to the Land, the LORD must choose him. Cannot multiply horses, gold and silver, or wives. Their hearts would be turned.

Has to keep this law written in a book by the throne.

**Ch 18:** Levites have no physical inheritance. LORD is their inheritance. Eat part of the sacrifices; animals and grain. Wine, oil, and animal skins. LORD has chosen them to minister in the Name of the LORD.

“When you come into the land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. <sup>10</sup>There shall not be found among you *anyone* who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, *or one* who practices witchcraft, *or* a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, <sup>11</sup>or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. <sup>12</sup>For all who do these things *are* an abomination to the LORD

The nations that the people dispossess do these things. Keep evil away.

V15: the LORD will raise up a Prophet “like me.”

1. a line of prophets would come chosen by God that will be clear and have credentials from Him. No place for fortune tellers and diviners.

2. Messiah – like Moses – Mediator, close to God, extent of ministry, miracles.

Both would come from the people and not from foreigners.

This was promised to Moses at Sinai when the people were terrified by the Presence and wanted God to speak only to Moses. People wanted a mediator between themselves and God.

God will put His words in the mouth of the prophets. People will know if the prophet is true or false.

**Ch 19:** cities of refuge. Only for manslaughter, not for murders.