

THE LORD THY GOD HATETH >>>

DEUTERONOMY CHAPTERS FIFTEEN AND SIXTEEN

~ To get the most study benefit from our Spiritual Safari, you will want to pray for wisdom, judgment and discernment, and then read this section of Scripture in your Bible, and then read this report. I want to make sure we're on the same page as we thoroughly consider God's poverty program. Man's poverty program just happens to be a complete failure; and this country's economy is completely corrupt, fraudulent and risky. Well, God has a program that works, and we'll see His program in this report. As most of you know, we do not outline the books of the Bible, as a traditional study would, because we are only after the spiritual. So, in this report, we will very definitely see the perfect sacrifice that is the Lord Jesus Christ in said poverty program. In our long and arduous study through Deuteronomy, this will be a very refreshing chapter....

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1 At the end of every seven years thou shalt make a release.

2 And this is the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth ought unto his neighbour shall release it; he shall not exact it of his neighbour, or of his brother; because it is called the LORD'S release.

~ Here, we see the birth of the seven-year mortgage. At the end of seven years, all debts were forgiven and cancelled out. If you had a mortgage on land, the land would return to its rightful owner in the Sabbatic Year, irrespective of the balance due. That was the way God equalized the wealth in the time that we are studying. Our safari does not consider politics because politicians do not agree that man is a sinful creature. Let's suffice it to say that if man can get it for nothing, then man is not going to work for anything; but they will sure have YOU work. We have an ugly ilk of extreme wealth in this country, and throughout the world. At one end of the spectrum, there are large masses of poor who will not work if things are given to them; and at the other end of that spectrum, the aristocratic crowd that feels work is beneath them.

Our society loves to read the stories about Henry Ford and Bill Gates; founders of great corporations that identify the United States of America. But those dream stories are equally as impossible as lottery odds today. Honestly, if that level of wealth is what you attain to, then one is just as good as the other. The formula's you design to take you to the final "winning" conclusion will be exactly the same, too. The richest men have a poverty program that works like this: YOU pay for it while they appropriate the funds - and are exempted by legislation that you are completely ignorant of. Alright, God has His own method of giving every man an opportunity who honestly wanted to work....

3 Of a foreigner thou mayest exact it again: but that which is thine with thy brother thine hand shall release;

4 Save when there shall be no poor among you; for the LORD shall greatly bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance to possess it:

~ And, with that, we arrive again at the oasis of OBEDIENCE. Obedience to these laws would have resulted in the "no poor among you" promise being true. Friends, if you want to claim the promises God has made to you, then you better learn how; and we're going to do that - by getting right down to the nitty-gritty in this report, trust me. If the instructions from God had been followed, there would not have been any poor people amongst the Israelite's. This passage is what the Word of God says about the poor and about the balance of wealth amongst His people; and it's going to reveal to us, in no uncertain terms, that man's poverty program is very far from God's program. Moreover, as a result, man's system is fraudulent; the system is fraudulent because frauds control man's system. There's nothing wrong with the system; there's something frighteningly perverted about those running it. No system will work under our current ungodly and hopelessly contradictory leadership of lies, greed and deception.

Poor people are exploiting Christians today throughout the world as they never have before. Possibly, many of those causes are legitimate. We see

more homeless orphans begging across this forum than the world has ever seen before. Right here in the United States of America we can see filthy wealth on one side of town and abject poverty on the other side of the city. That is the visible and tangible result of the sin of man. Our country's poverty program has brought national disgrace, too. Individuals make up that mass of man, of course; but let's not point any fingers to be safe.

In the hands of the wrong man with the wrong heart any and all styles of government become nothing in the world more than a front for the worst type of narcissism imaginable. Capitalism is certainly better, but it can easily become a front for corruption of a dictatorship disguised as liberal democracy. I know that's not popular – but it's true; and it defines the United States of America. Again, let's not point fingers – we're talking about the human heart. If we divided up the wealth equally today, in ten years we would be right back in the same imbalance. It may not even take that long. Let's keep it real, friends. God called His children to obedience - and IF they had obeyed Him, then there would have been no poverty. That's just not that difficult to understand. If I can write it down, then any man can understand it, and this just happens to be subjective truth; subjective to the Lord Jesus Christ....

5 Only if thou carefully hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all these commandments which I command thee this day.

6 For the LORD thy God blesseth thee, as he promised thee: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, but thou shalt not borrow; and thou shalt reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over thee.

~ Israel did, in fact, reach the position as the bankers of the world. The House of Rothschild financed many nations and wars. The ability of Israel to loan money to other nations of the world is staggering; actually, incomprehensible, and unknown to most of us. Well, they lent to many nations, but they don't borrow. Interestingly, even so, they DO NOT reign over many nations; so, we cannot say this prophecy is fulfilled. The reason is because they have never obeyed God. Up to the right now you could say Israel is still that stiff-necked people....

7 If there be among you a poor man of one of thy brethren within any of thy gates in thy land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not harden thine heart, nor shut thine hand from thy poor brother:

8 But thou shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need, in that which he wanteth.

9 Beware that there be not a thought in thy wicked heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand; and thine eye be evil against thy poor brother, and thou givest him nought; and he cry unto the LORD against thee, and it be sin unto thee.

10 Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou putteth thine hand unto.

11 For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.

12 And if thy brother, an Hebrew man, or an Hebrew woman, be sold unto thee, and serve thee six years; then in the seventh year thou shalt let him go free from thee.

13 And when thou sendest him out free from thee, thou shalt not let him go away empty:

14 Thou shalt furnish him liberally out of thy flock, and out of thy floor, and out of thy winepress: of that wherewith the LORD thy God hath blessed thee thou shalt give unto him.

15 And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt, and the LORD thy God redeemed thee: therefore I command thee this thing to day.

16 And it shall be, if he say unto thee, I will not go away from thee; because he loveth thee and thine house, because he is well with thee;

17 Then thou shalt take an aul, and thrust it through his ear unto the door, and he shall be thy servant for ever. And also unto thy maidservant thou shalt do likewise.

~ We considered this law of the slave's situation and how it was a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ took upon Himself the form of a servant; according to Paul in Philippians chapter two. Christ came to this earth in the likeness of sinful man. He was wholly harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners, however, which reveals His deity. Christ could have gone out free, friends. But you and I would not have been able to be saved. If you have the blood-tipped ear, you will hear what the Scriptures saith unto you. Christ didn't owe any debt of sin. Jesus had no sin that required sacrifice nor confession nor repentance or any penalty at all. Christ loved the church, so He gave Himself for it. The Psalmist will take this to psychologically astounding levels when we get there. This is another one of the remarkable pictures we have way back here in the Old Testament of the Lord Jesus Christ....

18 It shall not seem hard unto thee, when thou sendest him away free from thee; for he hath been worth a double hired servant to thee, in serving thee six years: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all that thou doest.

19 All the firstling males that come of thy herd and of thy flock thou shalt sanctify unto the LORD thy God: thou shalt do no work with the firstling of thy bullock, nor shear the firstling of thy sheep.

20 Thou shalt eat it before the LORD thy God year by year in the place which the LORD shall choose, thou and thy household.

21 And if there be any blemish therein, as if it be lame, or blind, or have any ill blemish, thou shalt not sacrifice it unto the LORD thy God.

22 Thou shalt eat it within thy gates: the unclean and the clean person shall eat it alike, as the roebuck, and as the hart.

23 Only thou shalt not eat the blood thereof; thou shalt pour it upon the ground as water.

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~ Every male was required to attend the three main feasts in Israel: Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles. Again, this is familiar safari territory, and my commentary is available on this topic from the books of Exodus and Leviticus, which we have previously considered. I don't think we need to reiterate the principles in this safari as much as we need to read the corresponding text again alone in prayer in our personal Bibles, and then continue our study in prayer. We're learning how to read the Bible here. Our safari is one big circle and, after Revelation, we're just going to turn around and start at Genesis again....

1 Observe the month of Abib, and keep the Passover unto the LORD thy God: for in the month of Abib the LORD thy God brought thee forth out of Egypt by night.

2 Thou shalt therefore sacrifice the Passover unto the LORD thy God, of the flock and the herd, in the place which the LORD shall choose to place his name there.

3 Thou shalt eat no leavened bread with it; seven days shalt thou eat unleavened bread therewith, even the bread of affliction; for thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt in haste: that thou mayest remember the day when thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt all the days of thy life.

4 And there shall be no leavened bread seen with thee in all thy coast seven days; neither shall there any thing of the flesh, which thou sacrificedst the first day at even, remain all night until the morning.

5 Thou mayest not sacrifice the Passover within any of thy gates, which the LORD thy God giveth thee:

6 But at the place which the LORD thy God shall choose to place his name in, there thou shalt sacrifice the Passover at even, at the going down of the sun, at the season that thou camest forth out of Egypt.

7 And thou shalt roast and eat it in the place which the LORD thy God shall choose: and thou shalt turn in the morning, and go unto thy tents.

8 Six days thou shalt eat unleavened bread: and on the seventh day shall be a solemn assembly to the LORD thy God: thou shalt do no work therein.

9 Seven weeks shalt thou number unto thee: begin to number the seven weeks from such time as thou beginnest to put the sickle to the corn.

10 And thou shalt keep the feast of weeks unto the LORD thy God with a tribute of a freewill offering of thine hand, which thou shalt give unto the LORD thy God, according as the LORD thy God hath blessed thee:

11 And thou shalt rejoice before the LORD thy God, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite that is within thy gates, and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that are among you, in the place which the LORD thy God hath chosen to place his name there.

12 And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in Egypt: and thou shalt observe and do these statutes.

13 Thou shalt observe the feast of tabernacles seven days, after that thou hast gathered in thy corn and thy wine:

14 And thou shalt rejoice in thy feast, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite, the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that are within thy gates.

15 Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the LORD thy God in the place which the LORD shall choose: because the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice.

16 Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty:

17 Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee.

18 Judges and officers shalt thou make thee in all thy gates, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, throughout thy tribes: and they shall judge the people with just judgment.

19 Thou shalt not wrest judgment; thou shalt not respect persons, neither take a gift: for a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous.

20 That which is altogether just shalt thou follow, that thou mayest live, and inherit the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

21 Thou shalt not plant thee a grove of any trees near unto the altar of the LORD thy God, which thou shalt make thee.

22 Neither shalt thou set thee up any image; which the LORD thy God hateth.

~ Our safari comes before the Lord with joy just as the children of Israel were commanded to come before the Lord. We serve in fear and rejoice in trembling. When we talk of gates in Scripture, we're referring to the place where people gathered in the city. It was the town square, where they held courts of law. Gates always mean the place of judgment in the Word of God.

We end this chapter closely connected with idolatry and sinful worship at polluted altars - again. They went into these groves and made heathen, pagan images and did all sorts of things that were shameful sins. Of course, the two were right next to each other, and God hateth that. Tree and nature worship always walks hand in hand with paganism of the worst type; the type that is proud and self-centered to the point of being an abomination to the Lord Jesus Christ. God is warning against this activity.

Our next report from our expedition through the entire Word of God will be most interesting as we have the test regarding who was a true prophet and who was a false prophet in Israel. It's one thing for Isaiah to say a virgin would conceive and bring forth a child seven hundred years before He was born; but it is altogether different for that prophecy to be fulfilled. Well, how would Israel know? What was the real rest? Stay with us ~

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