THE WICKEDNESS OF THY DOINGS >>>

DEUTERONOMY TWENTY-SEVEN AND TWENTY-EIGHT

~ Our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God continues our excruciatingly painful examination of Deuteronomy in this report; and we are crossing another expansive Scriptural time zone. We're traveling into the future today. This is specific to the nation Israel, and it pertains specifically to that land – over there – that is presently known as Israel. Beginning in this chapter, and culminating in the thirtieth chapter, we have what is known as the "Palestinian Covenant" that God made with the children of Israel. Technically speaking, Dr. Louis Sperry Chaffer gives the twenty-eighth chapter through the thirtieth chapter the designation of "Palestinian Covenant" and the Scofield Reference Bible begins at chapter twenty-nine as an introductory to the same covenant; and lists the thirtieth chapter as the "Palestinian Covenant" itself. Covering this doctrinal and theological topic properly, correctly and completely will require combining this report and the next to complete our commentary on the Palestinian Covenant.

"Covenant" is a word we have previously examined extensively as it has occurred several times thus far since we began in Genesis on this second so-called safari. There are several different types of covenants that can be made between men. Individuals can make covenants; nations can make covenants with each other. Then, we have the covenants God made with His people through Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the Old Testament – and they are also applicable by extension to all of humanity. The Word of God has given us other covenants, also - such as the "Adamic Covenant" – the "Noatic Covenant" – the "Abrahamic Covenant" – the "Mosaic Covenant" – so far – and now we arrive at the "Palestinian Covenant."

The covenants God made with Israel were divided into two different classifications: conditional and unconditional. You might want to divide those into "eternal" covenants and "temporary" covenants in your thinking. The temporary covenant is the conditional covenant. Our Spiritual Safari doesn't divide chapters and sections of Scripture as a conventional Bible study would; because we are after the spiritual aspect of the Bible, as

opposed to the theological, or doctrinal, fundamental conservative scholarly approach. However, we do need to understand what we are talking about regarding the covenants and the difference between the two types of covenants. The covenant God made with Abraham is an unconditional covenant; it is eternal and will never change. The Mosaic Covenant, which encompassed the Ten Commandments, is a conditional covenant. Interestingly, the Palestinian Covenant is an UNCONDITIONAL covenant. Technically speaking, the Palestinian Covenant begins in chapter thirty – but I consider all of these chapters part and parcel to it.

So, we see the nation Israel still camped out on the east bank of the River Jordan at the time in which we are studying. A new generation is preparing to enter the Promised Land. The first generation that came out of Egypt has perished in unbelief in the wilderness and all are dead; except Caleb and Joshua. Moses is the other one left alive from the previous generation, but Moses won't be entering the Promised Land with the second generation of the children of Israel, Joshua and Caleb. Deuteronomy ends with a requiem to Moses, and we'll attend the service on safari when the time comes. The people will then enter the land under the new leadership of Joshua. We have several of the most remarkable prophecies in the entire Word of God presented to us in this section of Scripture....

XXVII

1 And Moses with the elders of Israel commanded the people, saying, Keep all the commandments which I command you this day.

2 And it shall be on the day when ye shall pass over Jordan unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, that thou shalt set thee up great stones, and plaister them with plaister:

3 And thou shalt write upon them all the words of this law, when thou art passed over, that thou mayest go in unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, a land that floweth with milk and honey; as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee.

4 Therefore it shall be when ye be gone over Jordan, that ye shall set up these stones, which I command you this day, in mount Ebal, and thou shalt plaister them with plaister.

5 And there shalt thou build an altar unto the LORD thy God, an altar of stones: thou shalt not lift up any iron tool upon them.

6 Thou shalt build the altar of the LORD thy God of whole stones: and thou shalt offer burnt offerings thereon unto the LORD thy God:

7 And thou shalt offer peace offerings, and shalt eat there, and rejoice before the LORD thy God.

8 And thou shalt write upon the stones all the words of this law very plainly.

9 And Moses and the priests the Levites spake unto all Israel, saying, Take heed, and hearken, O Israel; this day thou art become the people of the LORD thy God.

10 Thou shalt therefore obey the voice of the LORD thy God, and do his commandments and his statutes, which I command thee this day.

~ In no uncertain terms, God tells the children of Israel their tenure in the land would be contingent upon obedience to Him. Even so, the land belongs to Israel; irrespective of whether they are occupying it or not. Their current occupation in our present day could not possibly be considered a return in fulfillment of Scriptural prophecy, as we have seen many times before. Interestingly, the first action God commanded Israel was to plaster the Ten Commandments everywhere. That is all very important to grasp at this time....

11 And Moses charged the people the same day, saying,

12 These shall stand upon mount Gerizim to bless the people, when ye are come over Jordan; Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Joseph, and Benjamin:

13 And these shall stand upon mount Ebal to curse; Reuben, Gad, and Asher, and Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali.

~ This is the same geographical location where Jesus will later meet the Samaritan woman at the well in John chapter five. Both locations are still there today; albeit they are both controlled by the Arab - which is another reason whereby we can know that the current return of Israel to the region known as Palestine can in no way be considered a fulfillment of Scriptural prophecy. It is under the control, technically, of Israel; but the area is entirely, one hundred percent — Arab inhabited, even unto this day. At the time in which we are studying, the children of Israel enter the land and pay the rent — so to speak — through obedience to God. They will never lose their right to the land; but disobedience must and does result in whatever current generation is there being expelled. That spiritually sensational Scriptural fact is why the tiny strip of real estate known as Israel is the single most sensitive land on the planet earth. What happens there can - and very well may - trigger a world war with nuclear involvement....

14 And the Levites shall speak, and say unto all the men of Israel with a loud voice.

15 Cursed be the man that maketh any graven or molten image, an abomination unto the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and putteth it in a secret place. And all the people shall answer and say, Amen.

16 Cursed be he that setteth light by his father or his mother. And all the people shall say, Amen.

17 Cursed be he that removeth his neighbour's landmark. And all the people shall say, Amen.

- 18 Cursed be he that maketh the blind to wander out of the way. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 19 Cursed be he that perverteth the judgment of the stranger, fatherless, and widow. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 20 Cursed be he that lieth with his father's wife; because he uncovereth his father's skirt. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 21 Cursed be he that lieth with any manner of beast. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 22 Cursed be he that lieth with his sister, the daughter of his father, or the daughter of his mother. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 23 Cursed be he that lieth with his mother in law. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 24 Cursed be he that smiteth his neighbour secretly. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 25 Cursed be he that taketh reward to slay an innocent person. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- 26 Cursed be he that confirmeth not all the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen.
- ~ Twelve curses were pronounced in case you lost count. They all relate to the Ten Commandments, of course. We'll not labor through commentary on all twelve because I think the spiritual meaning is easy enough to catch if we are praying for wisdom, judgment and discernment and enlightenment from the Holy Spirit, and then reading the text in the Spirit of God; and you should certainly take the time to read this text properly, correctly and completely. I understand it is difficult and monotonous.

The blessings that follow are all determinate and contingent upon obedience to God; and verse two of the next chapter contains another great big "IF." This is a conditional part of the covenant that promises blessing IF they recognize and follow the commands of the True and Living God. So, twelve curses are promised; but only six blessings are given. If you want the rest of the blessings, you'll have to flip over to the so-called Sermon on the Mount in Matthew chapter five, where the Lord Jesus gives them. There are more than an additional six blessings, though – there are nine more. That means the blessings of obedience far outweigh the curses of disobedience; and that made the Israelite sit up and take notice. Everyone wants to hear about the blessings to come – even after the long and checkered history Israel will have by the time the Lord Jesus arrives in Bethlehem. Of course, they had already been in captivity twice by that time when Jesus was on the earth historically. We also know Israel would go into yet another captivity and be scattered throughout the earth yet again....

XXVIII

1 And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, IF thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.

3 Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.

4 Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

5 Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store.

6 Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

7 The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways.

8 The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

9 The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways.

10 And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of thee.

11 And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

12 The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.

13 And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:

14 And thou shalt not go aside from any of the words which I command thee this day, to the right hand, or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

15 But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:

~ IF - IF "thou wilt not hearken unto;" is the condition of what so many people mistakenly believe is a complete and absolute unconditional love of God. That's Satan's current trick du jour; and the devil has a whole lot of people sleeping with a poisonous bottle in their mouth. Most so-called Christians are utterly blinded by their own ignorance, and they want to disguise it as love for God. Well, God gives the remarkable, pre-written, future history of the nation Israel; and that prophecy says, "IF" they will listen THEN they may enter into the Promised Land. What follows are three prophecies revealing the nation Israel is to be re-gathered and brought again into the land; they will be restored three times and dispossessed likewise.

Our first reference to obedience unto God was way back in Genesis; when God told Abraham that his offspring were going down into Egypt. As we know, the children of Israel went into slavery in Egypt for four hundred thirty years. However, God told Abraham that they would come out of slavery and return from there; and that's where we pick up following Israel in this report. The children of Israel entering the Promised Land the first time has, of course, been literally fulfilled. As we advance and consider the Book of Joshua, we see them take possession of the land - and in the Book of Judges, we see them get settled into their new home....

16 Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and cursed shalt thou be in the field.

17 Cursed shall be thy basket and thy store.

18 Cursed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy land, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

19 Cursed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and cursed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

20 The LORD shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, until thou be destroyed, and

until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me.

21 The LORD shall make the pestilence cleave unto thee, until he have consumed thee from off the land, whither thou goest to possess it.

22 The LORD shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue thee until thou perish.

23 And thy heaven that is over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee shall be iron.

24 The LORD shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust: from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed.

25 The LORD shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them: and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth.

26 And thy carcase shall be meat unto all fowls of the air, and unto the beasts of the earth, and no man shall fray them away.

27 The LORD will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed.

28 The LORD shall smite thee with madness, and blindness, and astonishment of heart:

29 And thou shalt grope at noonday, as the blind gropeth in darkness, and thou shalt not prosper in thy ways: and thou shalt be only oppressed and spoiled evermore, and no man shall save thee.

- 30 Thou shalt betroth a wife, and another man shall lie with her: thou shalt build an house, and thou shalt not dwell therein: thou shalt plant a vineyard, and shalt not gather the grapes thereof.
- 31 Thine ox shall be slain before thine eyes, and thou shalt not eat thereof: thine ass shall be violently taken away from before thy face, and shall not be restored to thee: thy sheep shall be given unto thine enemies, and thou shalt have none to rescue them.
- 32 Thy sons and thy daughters shall be given unto another people, and thine eyes shall look, and fail with longing for them all the day long: and there shall be no might in thine hand.
- 33 The fruit of thy land, and all thy labours, shall a nation which thou knowest not eat up; and thou shalt be only oppressed and crushed alway:
- 34 So that thou shalt be mad for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see.
- 35 The LORD shall smite thee in the knees, and in the legs, with a sore botch that cannot be healed, from the sole of thy foot unto the top of thy head.
- 36 The LORD shall bring thee, and thy king which thou shalt set over thee, unto a nation which neither thou nor thy fathers have known; and there shalt thou serve other gods, wood and stone.
- ~ This is a prophecy referring to the Babylonian captivity of the southern kingdom of Judah several hundred years in the future. This entire prophetic account from beginning to end is undeniable factual history. Jeremiah's prophecy was mostly about the impending captivity, also. The historical account is given in both of the books of both Kings and Chronicles. The last king, Zedekiah, had his children slain before him and then his eyes were gashed out. That's what we're talking about here God tells them exactly what and how it would be carried out. Well, friends; this is all a result of disobeying God, because God said "IF" they hearkened THEN they would

be blessed. They never obeyed God, and that first led to a division between the southern kingdom of Judah, who entered the Babylonian captivity, and the northern kingdom of Israel, who went into Assyrian captivity. The Books of Ezra, Daniel and Nehemiah all concern their return to the land AFTER the Babylonian captivity experience. After their return, they aren't a northern and southern kingdom anymore. Haggai, Malachi and Zechariah all speak of the return. So, that makes this the second prophecy concerning being driven out of the Promised Land for disobedience; but this prophecy also includes their second return - all of which has been literally fulfilled today as I type this report and as you read it....

- 37 And thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword; among all nations whither the LORD shall lead thee.
- 38 Thou shalt carry much seed out into the field, and shalt gather but little in; for the locust shall consume it.
- 39 Thou shalt plant vineyards, and dress them, but shalt neither drink of the wine, nor gather the grapes; for the worms shall eat them.
- 40 Thou shalt have olive trees throughout all thy coasts, but thou shalt not anoint thyself with the oil; for thine olive shall cast his fruit.
- 41 Thou shalt beget sons and daughters, but thou shalt not enjoy them; for they shall go into captivity.
- 42 All thy trees and fruit of thy land shall the locust consume.
- 43 The stranger that is within thee shall get up above thee very high; and thou shalt come down very low.
- 44 He shall lend to thee, and thou shalt not lend to him: he shall be the head, and thou shalt be the tail.
- 45 Moreover all these curses shall come upon thee, and shall pursue thee, and overtake thee, till thou be destroyed; because thou hearkenedst not

unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which he commanded thee:

46 And they shall be upon thee for a sign and for a wonder, and upon thy seed for ever.

47 Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things;

48 Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all things: and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee.

49 The LORD shall bring a nation against thee from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand;

~ This is a prophecy concerning Rome and the iron heel Roman rule that would come over them before the coming of the Messiah. There is a large, two volume book set available on Flavius Josephus, and he tells all about the coming of the Romans; first under Titus who destroyed Jerusalem in 70 A.D. – Which was when Rome became known as the "Iron Kingdom." That book set tells all about the next several verses and how they ate their babies, among other atrocities. People died and the corpses stank inside the city, so they began throwing them over the wall. That's when the Jews were scattered throughout the world. Well, they have never returned from that dispersion. Many people think their return has happened – but – there's no way, according to Scripture, that the current occupation of Israel in that land is a fulfillment of Scriptural prophecy.

The Roman language that was introduced to the Jews was not an oriental language. Modern English and European language is Latin based – as was Rome – but Israel was Hebrew. The Hebrew language of the Jews was altogether different. God told them all of this way back when they wouldn't understand it. The standards of Titus the Roman bore the eagle icon; and

when the Israelites looked over the wall and saw Titus and those eagles everywhere, I'm sure the instructed ones knew their time had come. There are three prophecies that Israel would be dispossessed – and all of those have been literally fulfilled. There are three prophecies of Israel returning three times, and they have returned twice. So, we have five out of six fulfilled prophecies as we study the Word of God in this report. The last prophecy will be fulfilled at some future point in history. These problems are the result of disobedience - and nothing else. God also speaks of diseases; and this safari isn't going to touch that issue in this report. It is very personal and deals with a certain race that has been characterized by diseases....

50 A nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor shew favour to the young:

51 And he shall eat the fruit of thy cattle, and the fruit of thy land, until thou be destroyed: which also shall not leave thee either corn, wine, or oil, or the increase of thy kine, or flocks of thy sheep, until he have destroyed thee.

52 And he shall besiege thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land: and he shall besiege thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, which the LORD thy God hath given thee.

53 And thou shalt eat the fruit of thine own body, the flesh of thy sons and of thy daughters, which the LORD thy God hath given thee, in the siege, and in the straitness, wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee:

54 So that the man that is tender among you, and very delicate, his eye shall be evil toward his brother, and toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the remnant of his children which he shall leave:

55 So that he will not give to any of them of the flesh of his children whom he shall eat: because he hath nothing left him in the siege, and in the straitness, wherewith thine enemies shall distress thee in all thy gates.

56 The tender and delicate woman among you, which would not adventure to set the sole of her foot upon the ground for delicateness and tenderness, her eye shall be evil toward the husband of her bosom, and toward her son, and toward her daughter,

57 And toward her young one that cometh out from between her feet, and toward her children which she shall bear: for she shall eat them for want of all things secretly in the siege and straitness, wherewith thine enemy shall distress thee in thy gates.

58 If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD;

59 Then the LORD will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance.

60 Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee.

61 Also every sickness, and every plague, which is not written in the book of this law, them will the LORD bring upon thee, until thou be destroyed.

62 And ye shall be left few in number, whereas ye were as the stars of heaven for multitude; because thou wouldest not obey the voice of the LORD thy God.

63 And it shall come to pass, that as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good, and to multiply you; so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to nought; and ye shall be plucked from off the land whither thou goest to possess it.

64 And the LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other; and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, even wood and stone.

65 And among these nations shalt thou find no ease, neither shall the sole of thy foot have rest: but the LORD shall give thee there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind:

66 And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life:

67 In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning! for the fear of thine heart wherewith thou shalt fear, and for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see.

68 And the LORD shall bring thee into Egypt again with ships, by the way whereof I spake unto thee, Thou shalt see it no more again: and there ye shall be sold unto your enemies for bondmen and bondwomen, and no man shall buy you.

~ So, we have another impossibly dreadful ending to this leg of our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God. As I have said previously, this has all been literally fulfilled; and if there is one people on this earth in grave danger today – it's the Israelites – in the nation Israel. They live in constant fear in that land today. There is absolutely no peace or safety. We're going to leave off here; but in our next report, we'll examine the heart of the great Palestinian Covenant. After that, we will only have two more reports from Deuteronomy. Then, we will consider the Book of Joshua before going straight through Judges and Ruth. After that, we return to the New Testament to study the Book of Acts. I hope you can continue with us and really begin to learn these books called the Bible properly, correctly and completely ~

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