

## THE HIRE OF A WHORE >>>

### DEUTERONOMY CHAPTERS TWENTY-THREE AND TWENTY-FOUR

~ **OUR SPIRITUAL SAFARI** expedition through the entire Word of God reaches two of the most remarkable chapters in all of Scripture in this report. This section covers the domestic relationship of the children of Israel to the Ammonite and the Moabite. This is false religion and Satan. We will also consider the Edomite, which represents the flesh; and we have the Egyptian, which represents the world and the things of the world, all laid down to provide a proper position and perspective of Gods people in relation to these other nations round about. John told us, very specifically, NOT to love the things of this world. We have very clear and definite teaching in the Bible about all of these things and we're going to discuss them at length. Our consideration of the book of Deuteronomy has been long and arduous – and turbulent – to say the least; unfortunately, it doesn't get any easier as we continue. Some of you will want to stop reading altogether; if the title of this report didn't already offend and turn you away. We're dealing with life issues that each of us face daily, hourly and, in fact, every moment of our time here on earth as Christians. We need these lessons given to us in plain and simple language.

My safari report titles almost always come from a phrase found in the text we are studying. When God uses plain language – I use plain language. This day in which we live is a day of blunt language; and I don't think God minds answering us on our level. Of course, we don't need to resort to profanity or vulgarity; but the Bible has extremely strong language and most so-called Christians seem to want to avoid that type of confrontation at all costs. As I said, I have no intention of avoiding anything when teaching the Bible properly, correctly and completely. Two reports ago, we got down to the nitty gritty of Christian life – and here we go again. In all fairness, there are some passages I don't comment on because the words speak for themselves, and I am not in the business of sensationalism – nor of overstating the obvious. In this report, however, we have certain spiritual lessons that I wouldn't have you miss for the world....

**XXIII**

***1 He that is wounded in the stones, or hath his privy member cut off, shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD.***

~ I included this first verse in my last report without comment as a means to acclimate us to the unusual laws we are coming to. This is a clear condemnation of asceticism. This has a very real application for us today. During the middle ages, the corruption in Europe, Asia and North Africa was seen by all men. At that time, these nations became ascetic; turning to monasteries in an attempt to separate themselves from the world. Quite frankly, I don't think we could blame them for that during their age. However, they were extreme, and God made a clear warning against such extremism. In protestant circles, this has led to the overbearing and condemning legalism those religions have adopted.

Those people believe that if they live what they call a "separated life" - and deny themselves so many different worldly things, then that will bring them into the acceptance of God. These are never happy or joyful people, and they never have any sense of humor whatsoever. In fact, some - most - of them are extremely dangerous individuals. They are extremely pious, and they act that piety out in extreme ways. They always act like they are shocked and amazed when anything worldly is presented - or even mentioned - to them or around them. When a Christian does something that is not to their standard, they lose their minds, literally.

These people are ALWAYS the meanest gossips you have ever met in any church, or group of any kind, for that matter. They are radical in their so-called separated life, but they have no problem with spreading rumors and innuendo about other people. My personal experience is that their business relationships are, generally, less than honorable. If you encounter a group like these super-duper pious saints, you will certainly have a bitter experience. You will find them absolutely and TOTALLY dishonest with you; all the while professing that they are the ones separated from the world into some category of sinless perfection. Well, this is God's warning against asceticism. The Lord says this type of individual is NOT to come into the

congregation and this type of person is NOT to be accepted. So, let's gather steam with even more very strong language....

***2 A bastard shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even to his tenth generation shall he not enter into the congregation of the LORD.***

~ There are so many people running around saying they are a "child of the King" and all that ridiculous hypocrisy. When you see those people who make that claim, you can know very definitely they are in no way a born-again child of God. Those people are straight up illegitimate, friends – EVERY time. The exact language used is "they are bastards." Is that not nice to you? Well, then you DEFINITELY do not want to continue with us now. God says the man who is religious but not born again is a bastard child that He does not acknowledge as His children. God makes that very clear right here. Nicodemus was a religious man of the highest sort; and Jesus told old man Nikki, "ye must be born again!" Nikki was making a claim on God - but God said Nikki was a bastard child. That Pharisee wore phylacteries of the most ornate type, and he was a spiritual ruler of Israel. Jesus said to Nikki, "you're illegitimate!" If you read the account correctly, Jesus actually rudely interrupted Nikki to let him know that. We have so – SO – many of those people running around playing church. All denominations and non-denominations are over-run by their ilk. They are pagans who have had a water baptism - but they're hell-doomed, unsaved sinners claiming Jesus this and Jesus that. They view their baptism as making them a child of God. My friends, God says, '.... BASTARD!'

You aren't going to Heaven if you're one of them, my beloved. All of God's children are legitimate. That means born-again. This is a GREAT question to ask ourselves today: "... have I been born-again?" Do we really know Christ as our Savior – do we trust and obey Him? How much time do we spend in sincere Bible study each day? To as many as received Him gave He them the POWER to become the sons of the True and Living God. Sure, this includes those who do no more than simply trust and obey Christ Jesus as Lord – but the point is: He certainly isn't your King right now, my hypocritical friends. Do you REALLY believe in Christ and what He did for you on the cross? That's what is important today. God is asking YOU right NOW: "have you

been born again?” If you don’t trust Christ and obey His commands, then I don’t care how many ceremonies or rituals you’ve acted out – and I don’t care how many churches you have membership to – I don’t even care about how religiously phony you are – you’re no child of the King. You do not know God, and you are not in any kingdom except the dominion of Satan. The Lord says you’re illegitimate....

***3 An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even to their tenth generation shall they not enter into the congregation of the LORD for ever:***

***4 Because they met you not with bread and with water in the way, when ye came forth out of Egypt; and because they hired against thee Balaam the son of Beor of Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse thee***

~ Here, we consider false religion. The modern archeologist has discovered in the land of the Ammonites and the Moabites that paganism was rampant to the inth degree. There are countless likenesses and images of Baal, representing the most hedonistic forms of paganism. Modern pictures of Jesus and statues of the saints come to my mind in this connection. We saw how Balak joined the children of Israel and corrupted them. False religion is an understatement because what we have here is pure, bone sucking Satanism. Well, the devil was not to enter into the congregation of the Lord. When Jesus said, “by their fruits ye will know them” – that speaks to false religions; although most want to apply it to unsaved people - which is ALWAYS incorrect.

That caused these nations to decide NOT to meet the children of Israel with bread and water, which just happens to be the evidence of a true Christian. Well, God escalates the conversation because linking up with – or even tolerating – false religions is the worst abomination you can commit in God’s eyes – you can just write that down. False religions have damned this world more than ANYTHING and EVERYTHING satanic combined. Religion is the biggest scourge that has ever swept the face of the earth. Christians are quick to condemn everything except the church on the boulevard with the highest steeple. If it has an attractive bell and a pretty man wearing a five-

thousand-dollar suit then it MUST be okay, right? Friends, those are ALWAYS the biggest dens of Satan in the city - yes, I said ALWAYS. Don't agree with that? – Well, guess what – YOU'RE wrong! God says to you: BEWARE....

***5 Nevertheless the LORD thy God would not hearken unto Balaam; but the LORD thy God turned the curse into a blessing unto thee, because the LORD thy God loved thee.***

***6 Thou shalt not seek their peace nor their prosperity all thy days for ever.***

***7 Thou shalt not abhor an Edomite; for he is thy brother: thou shalt not abhor an Egyptian; because thou wast a stranger in his land.***

~ In Genesis we considered that Edom is representative of the flesh. So, this says the flesh is our brother. Esau and Jacob were twins. Let's not get confused about the heresy of the "international brotherhood of men," because we were just told who to abhor – the Ammonite and the Moabite. Those are the offspring of Lot, Abrahams' nephew. See, you and I have an old nature called the flesh. Personally, I have spent so much time hating it and trying to deny it and I have found out that doesn't do one bit of good. YOU have that old nature, and YOU cannot get rid of it any more than you can just cut off your head to spite your ugly face. Well, you're not ALL ugly – I probably am.

There are many pleasures and satisfactions in this life that the super-duper saints seem to simply forget about. We have culture, agriculture, nature, certain art forms, sunshine and fresh air. Most of you satisfy your flesh three times each day – or more – when you sit down and eat. Well, that's fleshy. We are told not to abhor that. Some people go the extreme of mutilation as we saw in verse one. When we talk about the flesh, we are NOT talking about the meat hanging on the tendons attached to the bones; the "flesh" is that psychological part of us that resides always in the old nature, naturally. The difference is: that old nature is not to control us any longer after we are born again. The power of the Holy Spirit allows us to

RESIST yielding to it. The flesh is in total rebellion against God, my friends – we all know that – but hating it gets us nowhere except into a false religion.

Egypt represents the world and the things of the world. We are NOT to love the things of the world; but we are ALSO not to abhor them, and there is a huge difference. See, friends, if you say you are a Christian, it is important to understand the Word of God properly, correctly and completely; because you will never figure this out on your own volition; and they just do not happen to teach this in any school, college, university or even in seminary. I was in a church where they disallowed televisions and computers to their congregants; and, let me tell you, those were the biggest bunch of nut-jobs walking the planet today. Well, these things just happen to be part of the world. Of course, we're not to love them, and we must understand limits and self-control, but that is precisely where the false religion freaks break-down anyways – just in different areas of their life. We sure don't worship these things that make our lives somewhat more pleasant, easier and even meaningful and joyful. Naturally, just about every part of the world can be used for God or against truth and righteousness. That's the religious fanaticism we're talking about.

The Puritans were extremists, to be sure; and I would not have wanted to live in that era, quite frankly. Their blue laws were harsh and unforgiving; unforgiveness being the crux of the Puritan problem. However, I would take that over the completely debased and pornographic society we have today. You and I are strangers and pilgrims down here on this earth. We must recognize we are only passing through – but we're still passing through. The children of Israel were never commanded to plant flowers in the wilderness; they were only told to pass on through. As Christians, we are NOT to belong to ANY movement that is attempting to straighten out the world. Frankly, we're only called to give out the Word of God properly, correctly and completely. That means knowing it accordingly. I consider that teaching my business now. Christians must have this Biblically based relationship to the world and the flesh; but there is no compromise with false religion and the devil. That is simply remarkable to me, and I hope this report sheds some light of truth on your hearts....

***8 The children that are begotten of them shall enter into the congregation of the LORD in their third generation.***

***9 When the host goeth forth against thine enemies, then keep thee from every wicked thing.***

***10 If there be among you any man, that is not clean by reason of uncleanness that chanceth him by night, then shall he go abroad out of the camp, he shall not come within the camp:***

~ Here, the sanitary conditions within the camp are addressed because cleanliness is critically important to the health of any civilized and societal people. We can certainly credit Christianity with improving the sanitary conditions of this world. God gave us clean air, clean streams, clean oceans and clean everything. It is sinful man who is responsible for the condition of this planet today, friends; let's be perfectly clear. God gave us sanitary conditions to begin with; and if we were following God, we would not have the out-of-control environmental disasters we are seeing before our very eyes. The statistics regarding the problems in the world's landfills with our radioactive waste disposal, for example, is positively frightening – if you are aware of said problems....

***11 But it shall be, when evening cometh on, he shall wash himself with water: and when the sun is down, he shall come into the camp again.***

***12 Thou shalt have a place also without the camp, whither thou shalt go forth abroad:***

***13 And thou shalt have a paddle upon thy weapon; and it shall be, when thou wilt ease thyself abroad, thou shalt dig therewith, and shalt turn back and cover that which cometh from thee:***

***14 For the LORD thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.***

~ Wesley said, "... cleanliness is next to Godliness" – well, I think it's closer than that. I think it is actually part and parcel of genuine Christianity. We are to be clean; clean in the world, clean in body, clean in mind and thought, clean in the heart and clean in the mouth, clean in our homes and clean in our actions. God says He is Holy – and God tells us to be, therefore, holy – and that means – clean. This seemingly outdated section of Scripture just happens to be of utmost practicality....

***15 Thou shalt not deliver unto his master the servant which is escaped from his master unto thee:***

***16 He shall dwell with thee, even among you, in that place which he shall choose in one of thy gates, where it liketh him best: thou shalt not oppress him.***

***17 There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel.***

***18 Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the LORD thy God for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto the LORD thy God.***

~ Alright, the children of Israel didn't have the epidemic of harlotry we have today, to be sure. Today, in just about every single high-end hotel across the globe, a single man will be approached in this matter. God says He does not allow His children to have any income whatsoever from that which is illegal, immoral or anything else that He says is wrong. Christian organizations are not to knowingly receive ANYTHING from any of those sources, either. I know that's a most unpopular statement because it goes all the way down to donations from drunks and other illicit industries. Many of these big businesses try to cover up their filth by "giving" to charities. Well, I applaud the man or organization who turns that type of donation away....

***19 Thou shalt not lend upon usury to thy brother; usury of money, usury of victuals, usury of any thing that is lent upon usury***



**20** *Unto a stranger thou mayest lend upon usury; but unto thy brother thou shalt not lend upon usury: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all that thou settest thine hand to in the land whither thou goest to possess it.*

**21** *When thou shalt vow a vow unto the LORD thy God, thou shalt not slack to pay it: for the LORD thy God will surely require it of thee; and it would be sin in thee*

**22** *But if thou shalt forbear to vow, it shall be no sin in thee.*

**23** *That which is gone out of thy lips thou shalt keep and perform; even a freewill offering, according as thou hast vowed unto the LORD thy God, which thou hast promised with thy mouth.*

**24** *When thou comest into thy neighbour's vineyard, then thou mayest eat grapes thy fill at thine own pleasure; but thou shalt not put any in thy vessel.*

**25** *When thou comest into the standing corn of thy neighbour, then thou mayest pluck the ears with thine hand; but thou shalt not move a sickle unto thy neighbour's standing corn.*

**XXIV**

**1** *When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house.*

**2** *And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's wife.*

**3** *And if the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth it in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her to be his wife;*

***4 Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that is abomination before the LORD: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.***

~ Of course, those are some clear cut and easy to understand laws regarding marriage. The reason God is so adamant in His position is because anything outside of this would be wife swapping – back and forth. This was one easy form of divorce. If your wife over-cooked the chicken you could just write her a note telling her to take a hike. This law was given by Moses for one reason and one reason only – because of the hardness of their hearts. Remember, the Pharisees asked the Lord Jesus why this was so in Matthew chapter nineteen at verse seven. This was not the original intent of God – from the beginning it was not so. These were a stiff-necked, hard-hearted people, friends. Well, Jesus continues in that chapter in Matthew to say “EXCEPT it be for fornication” if you remarry, you commit adultery. Many people question first Corinthians chapter seven in this connection. Well, I’m not going into that here because we have not yet dealt with that part of our safari. It is entirely possible that another reason for divorce was opened by Paul – but we’ll get there soon enough....

***5 When a man hath taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war, neither shall he be charged with any business: but he shall be free at home one year, and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken.***

~ We have considered this previously but, in this regard, God is protecting the home in time of war. The sacredness of the marriage vow is held intact with this. It was a good idea because, as we just said, any reason was a good reason for divorce with these people. That’s just not the way the Lord intended it. I think many people get married today thinking “.... if it doesn’t work out, we’ll just get a divorce.” That’s extreme hardness of heart, my friend – extreme – and it's sick.

Make no mistake - there is a permissive will of God, and it is NEVER the best way for a man to go. All we can say is that God permits certain things

simply because of the hardness of our hearts. I'm sure that's the case in many cases of divorce. It's true today in many homes; and it is certainly true in the personal lives of myriad men and women. God has been merciful and gracious to us, make no mistake. Because of this, it would behoove some of the more spiritual people not to be so critical all the time of their weaker brethren; but, even so, let's be clear that the permissive will of God is NEVER as good as His direct will....

***6 No man shall take the nether or the upper millstone to pledge: for he taketh a man's life to pledge.***

***7 If a man be found stealing any of his brethren of the children of Israel, and maketh merchandise of him, or selleth him; then that thief shall die; and thou shalt put evil away from among you.***

~ So many atheists run around saying the Bible permits slavery. Well, I have news for you: the Word of God IN NO WAY condones slavery. The Word of God speaks ABOUT slavery in certain places, but you have to understand who is speaking to whom about what perspective and actually be learned in what you are reading before you begin picking disconnected verses out and claiming this is a principle or a rule of God. I just don't know why people would even want to comment on the Bible in such shameful ignorance. Nobody comments on medical or legal journals who don't know what they're talking about. Religion is a phenomenon, to be sure....

***8 Take heed in the plague of leprosy, that thou observe diligently, and do according to all that the priests the Levites shall teach you: as I commanded them, so ye shall observe to do.***

***9 Remember what the LORD thy God did unto Miriam by the way, after that ye were come forth out of Egypt. 10 When thou dost lend thy brother any thing, thou shalt not go into his house to fetch his pledge.***

***11 Thou shalt stand abroad, and the man to whom thou dost lend shall bring out the pledge abroad unto thee.***

***12 And if the man be poor, thou shalt not sleep with his pledge:***

***13 In any case thou shalt deliver him the pledge again when the sun goeth down , that he may sleep in his own raiment, and bless thee: and it shall be righteousness unto thee before the LORD thy God.***

***14 Thou shalt not oppress an hired servant that is poor and needy, whether he be of thy brethren, or of thy strangers that are in thy land within thy gates:***

***15 At his day thou shalt give him his hire, neither shall the sun go down upon it; for he is poor, and setteth his heart upon it: lest he cry against thee unto the LORD, and it be sin unto thee.***

***16 The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin.***

***17 Thou shalt not pervert the judgment of the stranger, nor of the fatherless; nor take a widow's raiment to pledge:***

***18 But thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in Egypt, and the LORD thy God redeemed thee thence: therefore I command thee to do this thing.***

***19 When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hands.***

***20 When thou beatest thine olive tree, thou shalt not go over the boughs again: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow.***

***21 When thou gatherest the grapes of thy vineyard, thou shalt not glean it afterward: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow.***

***22 And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt: therefore I command thee to do this thing.***

~ So, we're back to reviewing God's poverty program again. If you have not read all fourteen of our previous reports from Deuteronomy, I highly suggest you go back and do so now. I think God's instructions for taking care of the poor is rather important to the world. We have neglected those precepts until it has become a global problem of epic proportions. Los Angeles, San Diego, certain cities in Pakistan and India, are drowning in an irreversible problem of poor people. There are oceans of them now. Even so, this is a sweet ending to this leg of our Spiritual Safari – for once. We need to remember where we came from when dealing with and thinking about the provisions for the poor man, like me. God is taking care of the helpless here – and I thank Him for that ~

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